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adopted by the
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
at its
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1991*

13-31 May 1991

* The provisional texts of the resolutions and decisions are circulated herein for information. The provisional texts of resolutions and decisions adopted at the resumed first regular session (17-21 June 1991) will be issued as an addendum to the present document. The final texts will be issued in Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 1 (E/1991/91).

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1991/1. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as Assembly resolutions 1958 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967, 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, 42/130 of 7 December 1987 and 45/138 of 14 December 1990, in which it provided for subsequent increases in the membership of the Executive Committee,

Noting the note verbale dated 27 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee, 1/

Recommends that the General Assembly take a decision at its forty-sixth session on the question of increasing the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from forty-four to forty-five States.

8th plenary meeting
23 May 1991

1991/2. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/49 of 25 March 1990,

Reaffirming the purpose set forth in the Charter of the United Nations of achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Recalling also the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/14 and contained in the annex thereto, to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade,

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1/ E/1990/121.

Reaffirming the plan of activities for the period 1990-1993, to be implemented by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/47 of 30 November 1987, to which it is annexed, and recalling the activities that were proposed for the period 1985-1989,

Conscious of the responsibility conferred upon it by the General Assembly for coordinating and, in particular, evaluating the activities undertaken in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,

Bearing in mind, in particular, its mandate under General Assembly resolution 41/94 of 4 December 1986 to submit to the Assembly, during the period of the Second Decade, annual reports on the activities undertaken or contemplated to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, 2/

Noting that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the first years of the Second Decade have not been attained, and that millions of human beings continue to be victims of varied forms of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid,

Taking note of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-16/1 of 2 February 1990,

Noting with deep concern the decisions of certain Governments to relax the existing measures even before apartheid is eradicated and a non-racial democratic society is established in South Africa,

Expressing deep concern that the lack of resolve on the part of the South African regime to end the violence in that country could lead to further escalation of tension and loss of more lives,

Stressing the need to continue the coordination of activities undertaken by various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies for the purpose of implementing the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,

1. Reaffirms the importance of achieving the objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

2. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in particular the recommendations contained therein; 2/

2/ E/1991/39.

3. Calls upon the South African regime to exercise its responsibility to end the violence in that country and thus sustain the emerging political climate, which has the potential to create conditions that are conducive to the abolition of the system of apartheid;

4. Calls upon Governments to encourage positive change in South Africa based on the guidelines set out in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, in particular by maintaining existing measures against South Africa until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible change;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue with the implementation of the activities for the period 1990-1993, and further requests him to continue to accord the highest priority to measures to combat apartheid;

6. Invites all Governments to take or continue to take all necessary measures to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination and to support the work of the Second Decade by making contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in order to ensure further implementation of the activities for the Second Decade;

7. Welcomes the adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by the General Assembly in resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990;

8. Also welcomes the proclamation of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People by the General Assembly in resolution 45/164 of 18 December 1990;

9. Reaffirms the need to continue giving particular attention to the specific activities of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade that are directed towards the elimination of apartheid, which is the most destructive and vicious form of institutionalized racism;

10. Also reaffirms the importance of public information activities in combating racism and racial discrimination and in mobilizing public support for the objectives of the Second Decade, and commends the efforts of the Coordinator for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the effective and immediate implementation of the activities proposed for the first half of the Second Decade that have not yet been undertaken;

12. Also requests the Secretary-General, in his reports, to continue to pay special attention to the situation of migrant workers and their families;

13. Reaffirms the need for continued coordination of the full range of programmes being implemented by the United Nations system as they relate to the objectives of the Second Decade;

14. Decides to continue to accord the highest priority each year to the agenda item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

10th plenary meeting
29 May 1991

1991/3. Emergency assistance to Somalia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1989/111 of 22 May 1989 and General Assembly resolutions 44/178 of 19 December 1989 and 45/229 of 21 December 1990,

Welcoming the action taken by the Secretary-General of sending a mission to Somalia to ascertain security conditions in preparation for the resumption of an emergency assistance programme,

Having heard the report of the Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations in Somalia, 3/

Extremely concerned at the massive displacement of the population in the affected regions of Somalia, the extensive damage to and destruction of villages, towns and cities, the heavy damage inflicted by the civil conflict on the country's infrastructure and the widespread disruption of public facilities and services,

Noting with great satisfaction the humanitarian efforts being deployed by various national and international non-governmental organizations,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance rendered by a number of Member States to ameliorate the hardship and suffering of the affected population,

Aware of the complex political situation prevailing throughout the country and the continuation of civil strife in several areas,

1. Strongly appeals to Somalia's national leaders to do their utmost to bring about national reconciliation and to restore and promote peace and stability throughout the country;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the action taken in preparing for the resumption of United Nations assistance programmes in Somalia;

3/ See E/1991/SR.8.

3. Also expresses its appreciation for the humanitarian assistance provided to Somalia by several countries, as well as by members of the community of non-governmental organizations;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to assist in the formulation of medium- and long-term programmes for the rehabilitation and development of Somalia;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to dispatch, without delay, an inter-agency assessment mission to determine the emergency and medium-term needs of the affected population and to make recommendations on the financial and material resources required for the restoration of basic social services and physical infrastructure, including power, water, shelter, transport and communications;

6. Appeals to Member States and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations to extend generous assistance, in particular food, medicines and shelter, to the affected population through the appropriate humanitarian channels;

7. Urges the appropriate specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, to resume their assistance programmes in Somalia in their respective fields of competence;

8. Calls upon the Secretary-General to mobilize, on an urgent basis, international humanitarian assistance to provide for the immediate needs both of the internally displaced population and of those refugees who still remain in the country;

9. Strongly recommends that relief assistance be made available to all persons who are in need, that adequate measures be taken to ensure the safe delivery of relief supplies and the safety of relief workers, and that distribution of those supplies take place under the supervision of United Nations staff members in order to ensure impartiality and fairness;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the urgency of the situation, to endeavour to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1991, of the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and to arrange for a comprehensive report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

10th plenary meeting
29 May 1991

1991/4. World social situation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 40/100 of 13 December 1985 and 45/87 of 14 December 1990 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/52 of 28 May 1987, 1989/72 of 24 May 1989 and 1990/28 of 24 May 1990,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 44/56 of 8 December 1989, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit an interim report to it in 1991, through the Commission for Social Development and the Council,

Bearing in mind the primary importance of a well-balanced report on the world social situation for increasing international awareness of the efforts being made towards achieving the goals of social progress and better standards of living, established in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as of the obstacles to further progress,

Deeply concerned by the continued worsening of the economic situation in many developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, as evidenced by the significant decline in living conditions, the persistence and increase of widespread poverty in a large number of those countries and the decline of their main social and economic indicators,

Bearing in mind that certain developing countries have been able to achieve some economic and social progress,

Desirous that the pace of development in the developing countries be accelerated substantially in order to enable those countries to achieve their social objectives, especially those of meeting the basic need for food, housing, education, employment and health care and winning the struggle against the scourges that endanger the health and well-being of their populations,

Recognizing that progress in the social and economic fields constitutes an essential priority for national policies, the United Nations and the international community, as well as a prerequisite for international development and peace,

Believing that there is a need for greater effort by the United Nations system to study and disseminate accurate and balanced data and material on the existing world social situation, particularly with regard to emerging trends and institutional structures that have an impact on social development,

Having considered the interim report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation, 4/

4/ A/46/56-E/1991/6 and Corr.1.

Mindful of the need to reflect objectively on the sensitivity and importance of the social problems of developing countries,

1. Notes with concern that the interim report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation did not adequately focus on the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation in many developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, which is the prevailing problem in many of those countries;

2. Also notes with concern that the interim report did not sufficiently take into account the concerns and guidelines specified in paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72;

3. Reaffirms the request set forth in paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72 that, in preparing the next report on the world social situation, the Secretary-General give high priority to an analysis of the main indicators of social progress and standards of living and make a comprehensive analysis of the main causes and circumstances that explain negative trends in those indicators, and reaffirms also that chapters devoted to the study of specific social problems must be related to global economic and social situations, taking into account both national and international conditions;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to reorient the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation so that the draft framework is in consonance with the requests set forth in paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72, and to submit it to the Council for consideration at its regular session of 1992;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the 1993 report, to take into account the intrinsic relationship between economic growth and social development and to analyse in depth the economic problems of the developing countries and the impact of those problems on the world social situation;

6. Recommends that the draft of the 1993 report be reviewed by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that an integrated interdisciplinary focus is given and to provide a source of information for the report;

7. Invites all appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the 1993 report by making available all relevant information pertaining to their respective areas of competence.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/5. Humanitarian assistance to Iraqi refugees and displaced persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Expressing deep concern about the plight of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons,

Aware that the majority of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons are women, the elderly and children, who are particularly vulnerable to hardship,

Acknowledging the fact that coping with the enormous needs of Iraqi refugees is far beyond the capacities of host countries,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation in responding to the emergency needs of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons and the alleviation of human suffering,

Taking note of the heavy burden placed on the people and Governments of host countries,

1. Commends the efforts of the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey to provide Iraqi refugees with shelter, protection, food, health care and other humanitarian services, and welcomes the cooperation extended by host countries to the humanitarian agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations;

2. Expresses its appreciation for the assistance rendered by States, various organizations of the United Nations system and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to Iraqi refugees and displaced persons;

3. Welcomes with appreciation the initiatives of the Secretary-General in alleviating the human suffering of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons, including the designation of an Executive Delegate for the United Nations Humanitarian Programme for Iraq, Kuwait and the Iraq/Iran and Iraq/Turkey Border Areas;

4. Appeals to all States, appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial institutions to continue to provide the necessary resources for responding to the enormous needs of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons and recognizes the need to continue and improve further the coordination between host countries, the humanitarian agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations;

5. Calls upon States concerned and the United Nations system to facilitate the safe and honourable return of Iraqi refugees and displaced persons to their homes;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary financial and material assistance;

7. Requests the Executive Delegate of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Humanitarian Programme for Iraq, Kuwait and the Iraq/Iran and Iraq/Turkey Border Area to continue coordination with the appropriate specialized agencies in order to ensure the continuation of and to consolidate essential services to Iraqi refugees and displaced persons;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/6. Critical social situation in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, which provides the framework for international cooperation in the field of social development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 39/29 of 3 December 1984 and 40/40 of 2 December 1985, which led to the convening of the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to the critical economic situation in Africa, at which the Assembly adopted by consensus resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, to which the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 is annexed,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/46 of 24 May 1989, in which the Secretary-General was requested, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, to prepare a report providing an in-depth evaluation of the critical social situation in Africa, paying particular attention to the obstacles to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action,

Recognizing that progress in the social and economic fields is an essential priority for developing countries,

Taking into account the fact that in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990, 5/ the Governments of African States reaffirmed their primary responsibility for the economic and social development of their countries, identified areas for priority action, and undertook to mobilize and utilize domestic resources for the achievement of their priority objectives,

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5/ A/40/666, annex I, declaration AHG/Decl.1 (XXI), annex.

Reiterating that the African social and economic crisis is a development crisis that concerns the international community as a whole and that greater realization of the rich physical and human potential of the continent should be an integral part of a common strategy to promote the economic and social advancement of peoples,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by African Governments in redressing some of the acute social problems confronting them,

Stressing that the prospects for concerted implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 are being affected by an unfavourable external economic environment, debt-servicing obligations and the rate of flow of development finance,

1. Takes note of the interim report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation; 4/

2. Appeals to the international community, the States members of the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to increase their cooperation and assistance to enhance the efforts made by the African countries to establish or improve their infrastructure, through the creation of a favourable economic environment;

3. Regrets that the report of the Secretary-General on the critical social situation in Africa, 6/ prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/46, failed to meet the requirements set out in paragraph 3 of that resolution;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to direct the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in cooperation with the African Development Bank and, as appropriate, the Organization of African Unity, to prepare once again, for submission to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session, a report on the critical social situation in Africa, providing an in-depth evaluation of the critical social situation in Africa, paying particular attention to the obstacles to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, including the impact of structural adjustment policies on the social situation in Africa;

5. Decides that the Commission for Social Development should consider the report on the critical social situation in Africa at its thirty-third session in the context of its review of the world social situation.

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6/ E/CN.5/1991/8 and Corr.1.

1991/7. Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action in the field of social development

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, in which it endorsed the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future 7/ and requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure the implementation of, and follow-up action to, the Guiding Principles,

Reaffirming the continued importance and value of strategies and plans of action in different social policy areas directly related to the Guiding Principles, notably those concerning the status of women, the ageing, youth and disabled persons, as well as crime prevention and drug abuse, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 8/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 9/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 9/ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 10/

Recalling its resolution 44/65 of 8 December 1989, in which it decided, inter alia, that social issues as conceived in the Guiding Principles should become a major part of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Stressing the validity of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/48 of 28 May 1987, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to redeploy resources to ensure appropriate follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes,

Concerned about the lack of appropriate follow-up action to the comprehensive programme of the Guiding Principles in the regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia,

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7/ E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

8/ Resolution 217 A (III).

9/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

10/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

1. Reaffirms the validity of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future as a major framework for action at the local, national, regional and international levels in the field of social welfare and development;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on major issues and programme activities of the Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups; 11/

3. Stresses the interrelationship between economic growth and human welfare as one of the principal themes of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade; 12/

4. Appeals to Governments to make use of the Guiding Principles and to apply their recommendations, as appropriate and in accordance with their national structures, needs and objectives, to inform the Secretary-General of problems in their implementation and to accelerate the follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes;

5. Welcomes the inclusion of the implementation of the Guiding Principles in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 13/ and the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, 14/ as requested in its resolution 44/65;

6. Urges the Secretary-General and the organizations of the United Nations system concerned to continue to include the implementation of the Guiding Principles in their programmes of work and to assist Governments, particularly those of the developing countries, in formulating appropriate social welfare policies in setting up effective programmes according to their needs;

7. Urges the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to give adequate attention to the recommendations for action at the regional level contained in the Guiding Principles;

11/ E/CN.5/1991/3 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

12/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

13/ A/45/6 (Prog.25).

14/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

8. Stresses the role of non-governmental and voluntary organizations in the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the Guiding Principles, particularly in social crisis management, as reflected in the proceedings of the international expert meeting on the role of voluntary organizations in crisis management: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, drug abuse and mass migration as cases in point, held at Berlin, from 18 to 22 November 1990;

9. Urges Member States in all regions to initiate regional expert group meetings devoted to issues raised in the Guiding Principles and to translate their recommendations into specific social policy activities;

10. Welcomes the idea of holding regional conferences, for example, the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Affairs within the European Region, to be held in Czechoslovakia in 1992, and the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, to be held in the Philippines in October 1991;

11. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To strengthen the follow-up action to the Interregional Consultation by, inter alia, appropriately reflecting the Guiding Principles in global programmes and events, including the preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family; 15/

(b) To strengthen advisory services to Governments, especially those of developing countries, focusing on the policy, institution-building capacity, planning, administration and training aspects of developmental social welfare;

(c) To ensure that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Guiding Principles, is provided with sufficient resources, without incurring additional expenses, through the regular budget of the United Nations, for an effective follow-up to the Interregional Consultation;

(d) To reflect appropriately resource and programme requirements for monitoring the implementation of the Guiding Principles in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993;

(e) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress achieved in the implementation of and follow-up action to the Guiding Principles and the present resolution;

15/ See resolution 44/82.

12. Decides to consider the question of the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future at its forty-eighth session under the agenda item entitled "Social development".

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1991/8. Establishing and strengthening national coordinating committees on disability or similar bodies

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling relevant resolutions in which the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have requested the Secretary-General to assist Member States in establishing and strengthening national committees on disability and similar coordinating bodies 16/ and, in particular, General Assembly resolution 42/58 of 30 November 1987, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to consider convening during the second half of the Decade, within existing resources, an interregional meeting of representatives of those committees or similar bodies, to enhance their capabilities,

Aware of the important role of national coordinating committees in furthering the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 17/

Noting with concern that the great majority of disabled people live in developing countries and noting especially the deteriorating economic and social conditions of many developing countries, which adversely affect vulnerable groups, including disabled people, and the special difficulties they have in tackling the problems related to disability,

Taking into account the fact that countries have different cultures, customs, traditions and socio-economic levels and that national programmes are most effective when they are best suited to the country's circumstances,

Noting with appreciation the convening of the International Meeting on Roles and Functions of National Coordinating Committees on Disability in Developing Countries at Beijing from 5 to 11 November 1990,

Having considered the development of guidelines for the establishment and development of national coordinating committees or similar bodies,

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16/ General Assembly resolutions 39/26, 40/31, 41/106, 42/58, 43/98, 44/70 and 45/91 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/52.

17/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

1. Requests the Secretary-General to widely disseminate the guidelines for the establishment and development of national coordinating committees on disability in all the official languages of the United Nations and in Braille, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to assist Member States in undertaking follow-up measures, especially training seminars, to promote the implementation of the guidelines;

3. Requests the Secretariat, in particular the regional commissions, to promote an exchange of information and experiences between national coordinating committees or similar bodies, at the regional level;

4. Urges the Secretariat, in particular the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, and the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations Development Programme to play a major role in assisting Member States, in particular the least developed among them, to establish and strengthen national coordinating committees or similar bodies;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to use resources available in the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons to assist Member States in setting up and strenthening national coordinating committees or similar bodies;

6. Calls upon Member States to establish national coordinating committees or similar bodies on a permanent basis and to provide them with the necessary staff and resources during and after the Decade, bearing in mind that their structure and methodology of work should be in conformity with the circumstances of the countries in which they are situated;

7. Recommends that the Secretary-General include the activities undertaken in relation to the Guidelines in future reports on disability-related programmes, and requests him to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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30 May 1991

1991/9. United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/52 of 24 May 1989, in which it called upon Member States, the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further the practical implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982,

during the second half of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, based on the list of priorities and programmes set forth in the annex to General Assembly resolution 43/98 of 8 December 1988,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/91 of 14 December 1990, in which the Secretary-General was requested to shift the focus of the United Nations programme on disability from awareness-raising to action, with the aim of achieving a society for all by the year 2010 and of responding more appropriately to the many requests for assistance and advisory services,

Noting with appreciation the recommendations of the meeting of experts held at Järvenpää, Finland, from 7 to 11 May 1990, under the joint auspices of the Government of Finland and the United Nations, 18/

Concerned about the very difficult situation of disabled persons living in developing countries and the vulnerability of disability-related programmes and projects, particularly during periods of economic restructuring,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on major issues and programme activities of the Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups, 11/

1. Welcomes the intiative of the Commission for Social Development in elaborating standard technical rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons;

2. Calls upon Member States, regional commissions, intergovernmental bodies and other relevant organizations, in cooperation with organizations of disabled persons, to adopt an integrated policy approach to disability issues as part of the overall efforts to strive for a sustainable social development strategy;

3. Requests the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to support pilot projects aimed at designing integrated disability policies in developing countries and to seek voluntary contributions for that purpose;

4. Invites Member States to review their policies and programmes with the aim of designing national annual priorities until the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons in 1992 and concrete long-term strategies to ensure the full implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons beyond the Decade;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to encourage the establishment of working groups funded by voluntary contributions to study and compare the implementation of national priorities;

18/ See A/45/470.

6. Requests Member States to give concrete support to the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop activities benefiting disabled persons on a sustainable basis in countries with a special need for international support, particularly in developing countries;

7. Recommends that a meeting of experts, to be funded by voluntary contributions, be held in conjunction with the conference entitled "Independence 1992", to be organized in Canada by the British Columbia Pavillion Corporation, in cooperation with Disabled Peoples' International and other interested non-governmental organizations, with the primary objective of drawing up a long-term strategy to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the year 2000 and beyond;

8. Invites Member States to provide financial and technical support for the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop an international information network at the United Nations Office at Vienna;

9. Recommends that the General Assembly, at its forty-seventh session, devote four plenary meetings to mark, at the global level, the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons;

10. Requests the Commission for Social Development to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session an item entitled "Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action", and to discuss under that item a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons beyond the Decade.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/10. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and related activities

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/50 of 24 May 1989, in which the Council endorsed a draft programme of United Nations activities relating to the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, in 1992,

Pursuant to its resolution 45/106 of 14 December 1990, in which it endorsed the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond as outlined

in the report of the Secretary-General on the question of ageing, 19/ invited Member States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to consider innovative and effective ways of cooperating on the selection of targets in the field of ageing during 1991 and 1992, and urged Member States, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to participate in the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond, especially in selecting targets in the field of ageing, in organizing community-wide activities and in launching an information and fund-raising campaign to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing at the local, national, regional and global levels,

Recalling that in resolution 45/106, it endorsed the convening of an ad hoc working group of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-second session to monitor the activities for the tenth anniversary, especially the launching of a global information campaign, and the selection of targets that might form the basis of the third review and appraisal of the Plan of Action to be made by the Commission at its thirty-third session, in 1993, and recommended that the Commission give consideration to the desirability of convening, subject to the availability of funds, regional and sectoral meetings on the selection of targets on ageing during 1991 and 1992 and global consultations in 1993 and 1997,

Also recalling that, in resolution 45/106, it recognized the complexity and rapidity of the ageing of the world's population and the need to have a common basis and frame of reference for the protection and promotion of the rights of the elderly, including the contribution that the elderly can and should make to society,

Aware of the plight of the elderly in developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, as well as those in difficult circumstances, such as refugees, migrant workers and victims of conflict,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1751 (LIV) of 16 May 1973 on the aged and social security,

1. Recommends that the United Nations define, on the basis of the recommendations of a small expert group meeting to be held in 1991 within existing resources, targets on ageing to provide a pragmatic focus for the broad and ideal goals of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, and issue them as "Targets on ageing: programme recommendations at the national level for the year 2001";

19/ A/45/420.

2. Urges Member States to identify their specific national targets on ageing for the year 2001, on the basis of the proposed targets on ageing;

3. Invites the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to develop, in consultation with United Nations organizations and bodies and international non-governmental organizations, a set of suggested global targets designed to support implementation of the national targets on ageing;

4. Recommends that the General Assembly devote four plenary meetings, that is, two working days, at its forty-seventh session to an international conference on ageing to consolidate a set of targets on ageing for the year 2001 and to celebrate on an appropriate global scale the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

5. Urges the United Nations to give special attention to implementing the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond;

6. Calls upon the Secretary-General to give all possible support, in the form of both regular and extrabudgetary resources, to the Ageing Unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, to enable it to fulfil its mandate as lead agency for the action programme on ageing;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to designate the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna as coordinator for the preparation of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and for the implementation of the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond;

8. Invites the Secretary-General to explore the feasibility of appointing an interregional adviser on ageing to assist developing countries in expanding their ability to respond effectively to the ageing of their populations;

9. Invites the United Nations to examine the feasibility of launching a service composed of experts who are elderly, modelled on the United Nations Volunteers;

10. Urges the United Nations Postal Administration, as called upon in General Assembly resolution 44/67 of 8 December 1989, to issue a stamp to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

11. Urges the United Nations to consider, on an exceptional basis, issuing a medal on ageing bearing the emblem of the World Assembly on Ageing to mark activities planned for the decade 1992-2001;

12. Decides to launch a global information campaign on the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond, and welcomes the cooperation of the Department of Public Information and the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in this endeavour;

13. Recommends that the United Nations provide further advisory services to countries in the process of development, change and transition, at their request, to ensure that the issue of ageing remains an important part of their social development programmes;

14. Adopts the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, based on the International Plan of Action on Ageing, annexed to the present resolution.

Annex

UNITED NATIONS PRINCIPLES FOR OLDER PERSONS 20/

The General Assembly,

Appreciating the contribution that older persons make to their societies,

Recognizing that, in the Charter of the United Nations, the peoples of the United Nations declare, inter alia, their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Noting the elaboration of those rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 8/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 9/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 9/ and other declarations to ensure the application of universal standards to particular groups,

In pursuance of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted by the World Assembly on Ageing and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982,

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20/ Based on the International Plan of Action on Ageing; see Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

Appreciating the tremendous diversity in the situation of older persons, not only between countries but within countries and between individuals, which requires a variety of policy responses,

Aware that in all countries, individuals are reaching an advanced age in greater numbers and in better health than ever before,

Aware of the scientific research disproving many stereotypes about inevitable and irreversible declines with age,

Convinced that in a world characterized by an increasing number and proportion of older persons, opportunities must be provided for willing and capable older persons to participate in and contribute to the ongoing activities of society,

Mindful that because of the strains on family life in both developed and developing countries support is required for those providing care to frail older persons,

Bearing in mind the standards already set by the International Plan of Action on Ageing and the conventions, recommendations and resolutions of the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities,

Encourages Governments to incorporate the following principles into their national programmes whenever possible:

Independence

1. Older persons should have access to adequate food, water, shelter, clothing and health care through the provision of income, family and community support and self-help.

2. Older persons should have the opportunity to work or to have access to other income-generating opportunities.

3. Older persons should be able to participate in determining when and at what pace withdrawal from the labour force takes place.

4. Older persons should have access to appropriate educational and training programmes.

5. Older persons should be able to live in an environment that is safe and adaptable to personal preferences and changing capacities.

6. Older persons should be able to reside at home for as long as possible.

Participation

7. Older persons should remain integrated in society, participate actively in the formulation and implementation of policies that directly affect their well-being and share their knowledge and skills with younger generations.

8. Older persons should be able to seek and develop opportunities for service to the community and to serve as volunteers in positions appropriate to their interests and capabilities.

9. Older persons should be able to form movements or associations of older persons.

Care

10. Older persons should benefit from family and community care and protection in accordance with each society's system of cultural values.

11. Older persons should have access to health care to help them to maintain or regain the optimum level of physical, mental and emotional well-being and to prevent or delay the onset of illness.

12. Older persons should have access to social and legal services to enhance their autonomy, protection and care.

13. Older persons should be able to utilize appropriate levels of institutional care providing protection, rehabilitation and social and mental stimulation in a humane and secure environment.

14. Older persons should be able to enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms when residing in any shelter, care or treatment facility, including full respect for their dignity, beliefs, needs and privacy and for the right to make decisions about their care and the quality of their lives.

Self-fulfilment

15. Older persons should be able to pursue opportunities for the full development of their potential.

16. Older persons should have access to the educational, cultural, spiritual and recreational resources of society.

Dignity

17. Older persons should be able to live in dignity and security and be free of exploitation and physical or mental abuse.

18. Older persons should be treated fairly regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, disability or other status, and be valued independently of their economic contribution.

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1991/11. Integration of young people into society: participation, development, peace

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly in its resolution 40/14 of 18 November 1985 entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace" requested the Commission for Social Development to examine, on a regular basis, specific youth issues,

Considering also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 45/103 of 14 December 1990, requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond in accordance with proposals to be submitted by Member States, the United Nations and non-governmental youth organizations and in consultation with the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Considering that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1989/51 of 24 May 1989, and the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/59 of 8 December 1989, requested the Commission for Social Development to prepare at its thirty-third session a draft programme of action to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, in 1995, and to identify future strategies in the field of youth,

Considering that, in its resolution 45/103, the General Assembly decided to devote a plenary meeting at its fiftieth session, in 1995, to youth questions,

Considering that the draft programme of action to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and the draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond are subjects that require special attention, study and collaboration,

Taking into account, to that end, the deliberations and suggestions of the International Symposium on the Integration of Young People into Society, held at Toledo, Spain, from 4 to 8 June 1990, 21/ and other relevant international meetings,

1. Decides that an open-ended ad hoc working group of the Commission for Social Development should be established at the thirty-third session of the Commission:

(a) To review and appraise progress achieved and obstacles identified in implementing the objectives of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace;

(b) To prepare a draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year;

(c) To prepare a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond, taking into account regional youth programmes of action;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session, for discussion by the open-ended ad hoc working group, the draft calendar of activities and the draft world youth programme of action referred to in subparagraphs 1 (b) and (c) above.

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1991/12. Strategies for social development cooperation

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Social Progress and Development proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Mindful of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, 7/ endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/55 of 24 May 1989 on the social dimension of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

Deeply concerned about the continuing deterioration of the social situation in many developing countries, in particular the least developed among them,

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21/ E/CN.5/1991/4 and Corr.1.

1. Notes with appreciation the convening of the Meeting of the Expert Group on the Social Impact of the Critical Economic Environment on Developing Countries: Strategies for Social Development Cooperation at Järvenpää, Finland, from 17 to 21 September 1990, under the joint auspices of the United Nations and the Government of Finland;

2. Endorses the views and suggestions contained in the report of the Expert Group 22/ and requests the Secretary-General to arrange for its wide dissemination, drawing particular attention to the suggestions and recommendations contained therein;

3. Invites organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and Member States to review their goals and operating procedures in the light of the considerations and suggestions offered by the Expert Group;

4. Calls upon all Member States to ensure that social concerns are fully integrated in all development cooperation projects and activities;

5. Further calls upon all Member States, in a spirit of cooperation and partnership between developed and developing countries, to promote sustained and sustainable development that reconciles economic growth with the improvement of living standards, social welfare, environmental protection and democracy;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to organize activities, including additional research, designed to elaborate further practical measures and techniques to achieve the goals of social progress and development;

7. Urges Member States to associate themselves actively with such activities;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its first regular session of 1993, through the Commission for Social Development, on progress achieved and obstacles encountered in implementing the social development goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 23/ and on the progress made in elaborating the suggestions and recommendations of the Expert Group.

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22/ E/CN.5/1991/5.

23/ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.

1991/13. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission for Social Development resolution 31/2 of 22 March 1989, 24/

Recognizing the importance of research on social issues for the formulation and implementation of development policies, and considering the functions of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and the important contribution it makes in that area,

Recognizing also that the Institute has complied with the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development in past years, particularly with regard to its catalytic role and its support for research carried out by national research bodies,

Stressing the need to ensure that the Institute has the capacity to implement its overall programme,

Considering the appeal made on various occasions by the Board of the Institute to the Commission for an increase in the number of donor countries,

Having considered the report of the Board of the Institute on its activities during the period 1 November 1989 to 31 October 1990, 25/

1. Takes note of the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. Expresses its appreciation to Governments providing financial support to the Institute;

3. Invites those Governments that have not yet done so to make financial contributions to the Institute according to their ability, and those Governments that already support the Institute to consider increasing their contribution, in both cases on a regular or project-by-project basis;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide financial and other administrative services to the Institute in line with its original status.

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24/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 7 (E/1989/25), chap. I, sect. D.

25/ E/CN.5/1991/6.

1991/14. Preparation for and observance of the International Year of the Family

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, in which it proclaimed 1994 as International Year of the Family, designated the Commission for Social Development as the preparatory body and the Economic and Social Council as the coordinating body for the Year, and requested the Secretary-General to prepare, on the basis of his report and in consultation with Member States, concerned specialized agencies and interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year,

Recalling also its resolution 45/133 of 14 December 1990, in which it invited Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year, and requested the Secretary-General to finalize a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year and to submit it for consideration by the Commission for Social Development at its session in 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session,

Conscious of the existence of various concepts of the family in different socio-political and cultural systems,

Noting with satisfaction that the unanimous proclamation by the General Assembly of 1994 as International Year of the Family has increased the awareness and highlighted the importance of family issues among Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as interested national organizations and, consequently, has promoted a better knowledge of the economic, social and demographic processes affecting families and their members and has focused attention on the equal rights and responsibilities of all family members,

Expressing its appreciation to Governments, specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned for the activities already taken up in support of the objectives of the International Year of the Family, thereby increasing awareness of family issues at local and national levels,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Preparation for and observance of the International Year of the Family", 26/

1. Approves for implementation the proposals made by the Secretary-General in his report;

2. Invites all Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to step up all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the International Year of the Family;

3. Welcomes the establishment by the Secretary-General of the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Preparation for and the Observance of the International Year of the Family;

4. Reaffirms its invitation to all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, such as coordinating committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the Year;

5. Requests the relevant United Nations preparatory and coordinating bodies for the Year to keep preparations for the Year under constant review;

6. Invites Governments to contribute, as far as possible, resources, including staff, to the secretariat of the Year;

7. Invites all Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to cooperate closely with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

8. Requests that in the planning and executing of programmes and activities for the Year, special attention should be given to socio-economic and cultural conditions in developing countries in the approach to family issues;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to provide effective means of coordination between the secretariat of the Year and the relevant non-governmental organizations in support of the Year;

26/ E/CN.5/1991/2.

10. Urges the Secretary-General to provide adequate staff to the secretariat of the Year and to reflect its strengthening in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the state of preparations for the Year;

12. Invites the Commission for Social Development to ensure that all plans, programmes and activities related to the family are in accordance with the concept of equality between women and men as expressed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 27/ and to ensure the incorporation into the programme of the Year of the principles relating to policies aimed at fostering equality between women and men, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General; 26/

13. Requests the Commission for Social Development to keep the Commission on the Status of Women informed of the preparations for the Year;

14. Decides to consider the question of the International Year of the Family, on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General, at its forty-eighth session under the agenda item entitled "Social development".

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/15. Crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice under Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Bearing in mind the important role of the United Nations in assisting Member States to formulate more effective strategies and policies to combat crime and humanize criminal justice systems,

Concerned about the escalation of crime in all its forms, particularly in its new dimensions and transnational forms, and the violence in many parts of the world, which threatens the international community, impinges on the enjoyment of basic human rights and has a negative impact on the development process,

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27/ Resolution 34/180, annex.

Recognizing the urgent need for an adequate global response to those crimes that transcend national boundaries or for any other reasons require coordinated action between States, including strengthened international mechanisms to provide criminal justice personnel with ready access to information, facilitate the exchange of technical know-how, further promote international cooperation in this field and ensure adequate coordination for practical action programmes,

Determined to ensure the continued focus on the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders 28/ and to make steady progress in their practical application,

Noting with concern the continuing increase in the workload of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, particularly in relation to the mandates entrusted to it by the Eighth Congress and by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/108 of 14 December 1990, the need to prioritize its programme and the need to confine its activities to the areas where a positive contribution can be made through international action,

Recalling its resolution 1990/27 of 24 May 1990 concerning, inter alia, the timely implementation and proper follow-up of the recommendations of the Eighth Congress,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to review the resources required to enable the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch to discharge its responsibilities in accordance with the new mandates,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice; 29/

2. Welcomes the successful results of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and urges Governments to ensure the appropriate implementation of its conclusions and recommendations;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the resolutions of the Eighth Congress in order to assist interested countries in promoting human resources development, reinforcing their national machinery, undertaking joint training activities

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28/ Report of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990 (A/CONF.144/28), chap. I.

29/ E/1991/19.

and executing pilot and demonstration projects, and invites the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat and other relevant organizations to consider giving increased support to those endeavours;

4. Stresses the importance of General Assembly resolution 45/108 on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice in determining mechanisms for the more efficient focusing of the programme on those activities where the United Nations can make a positive contribution to the control of crime, and requests the Secretary-General to assist in the proper organization of the intergovernmental working group and the ministerial summit meeting on the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme, called for in that resolution;

5. Takes note with appreciation of the offer of the Government of France to act as host for the ministerial summit meeting in the second half of 1991;

6. Recommends that adequate provision be made for the participation of the representatives of the least developed countries that are members of the intergovernmental working group, as well as to ensure their participation in the ministerial summit meeting;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to use his best endeavours to provide resources within the existing level of the regular budget, as required, for public information activities related to the preparation and servicing of those two meetings;

8. Invites Governments to be actively involved and to provide their support to ensure the success of the ministerial summit meeting;

9. Welcomes the initiative taken by the Government of Canada to establish in Canada a new international centre for criminal law reform and criminal justice policy as an institute affiliated with the United Nations, and invites the Secretary-General to conclude an agreement with the Government, as appropriate;

10. Requests the General Assembly to give priority attention to the conclusions and recommendations of the ministerial summit meeting, with a view to taking appropriate action thereon, leading to the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme;

11. Recommends that the General Assembly, in the light of this review, consider requesting the Secretary-General to enter into a commitment for the upgrading of the status of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, as called for in numerous General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions, the most recent of which being Assembly resolution 45/108, in a way commensurate with its increased responsibilities and required professional expertise;

12. Decides to give priority attention at its regular session of 1992 to crime prevention and criminal justice under a sub-item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice".

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/16. Strengthening and rationalizing the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the growing interest of Member States in the activities of the United Nations in the social and related fields and for the advancement of women,

Reiterating the various requests of the appropriate subsidiary bodies of the Council that issues in the social and related fields receive greater attention as well as resources,

Recalling section IV of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to propose a comprehensive restructuring of United Nations entities in Vienna with a view to a speedy implementation of the express wish of the General Assembly to strengthen the United Nations Office at Vienna,

Taking into account the statement submitted by the Secretary-General concerning programme budget implications, 30/

Requests the Secretary-General to add specific recommendations, within the overall level of the budget of the organization, to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to strengthen and rationalize the resources of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in order to enable it better to fulfil its mandates and carry out its activities in the social and related fields and for the advancement of women.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

30/ E/1991/C.2/L.8.

1991/17. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 31/ in particular paragraphs 306, 315, 356 and 358, in which importance is attached to the appointment of women in the Secretariat at senior decision-making and managerial levels,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other bodies that have been adopted since Assembly resolution 2715 (XXV) of 15 December 1970,

Recalling further the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, 32/

Noting that the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat has submitted its report to the Secretary-General,

Noting with satisfaction that the question of the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat continues to be an item on the agenda of the Administrative Committee on Coordination,

Taking note of the relevant section of the report of the International Civil Service Commission, 33/

Noting with concern that the goal of an overall participation rate for women of 30 per cent by 1990 in posts subject to geographical distribution was not achieved and that their representation in senior policy-level and decision-making posts did not improve,

Noting the new goal of achieving by 1995 an overall participation rate of 35 per cent of all posts subject to geographical distribution, and of increasing the number of women in senior policy-level and decision-making posts,

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31/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

32/ A/45/548.

33/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 and addendum (A/45/30 and Add.1), chap. VIII.

1. Urges the Secretary-General to accord greater priority to increasing the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, in order to achieve an overall participation rate of 35 per cent by 1995, taking into consideration the need to increase the representation of women from the developing countries and those countries with a low representation of women;

2. Also urges the Secretary-General to accord priority to increasing, by 1995, the participation rate for women to 25 per cent in posts at the D-1 level and above, within the overall participation rate for women of 35 per cent in posts subject to geographical distribution, taking into consideration the need to increase the representation of women from the developing countries and those countries with a low representation of women;

3. Welcomes the request of the General Assembly, in resolutions 45/125 of 14 December 1990 and 45/239 C of 21 December 1990, that the Secretary-General develop an action programme for the advancement of women in the Secretariat for the period 1991-1995, incorporating as necessary the unfulfilled points of the 1985-1990 action programme and taking into account the recommendations of the Steering Committee, as appropriate, and the special measures to implement them;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the action programme for the advancement of women in the Secretariat for the period 1991-1995 (a) a comprehensive evaluation and analysis of the main obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Organization, (b) proposed measures to overcome the underrepresentation of women from certain Member States and (c) a detailed programme of activities, including monitoring procedures and a timetable for their completion;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to ensure that adequate machinery, with the authority of enforcement and the responsibility of accountability, including a senior-level official devoted to implementation of the action programme, is maintained and, to the extent possible, strengthened during the course of the action programme for the period 1991-1995;

6. Requests Member States to continue to support the efforts of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, and of the specialized agencies and related organizations to increase the participation of women in the Professional category and above by, inter alia, nominating more women candidates, especially for senior policy-level and decision-making posts, by encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and by creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the Secretariat and the executive bodies of the specialized agencies and related organizations;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his annual report, updated as appropriate, on progress achieved, includes strategies and modalities for implementing the action programme and the relevant mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and to

submit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, as well as to those bodies that have administrative, budgetary and personnel responsibilities for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/18. Violence against women in all its forms

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in which it was stated that violence against women was a major obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 34/

Bearing in mind the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, contained in the annex to its resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, in particular the conclusion that violence against women in the family and society was pervasive and crossed lines of income, class and culture, and specifically recommendation XXII, which called for immediate action on the part of Governments, relevant agencies, women's organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to address the issue of violence against women,

Noting its resolution 1988/27 of 26 May 1988, in which it called for the continuation of the consolidation of efforts to eradicate violence against women within the family and society,

Noting also the relevant recommendations of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders 35/ and of the Eighth Congress 28/ and the relevant observations of the Seventh Congress, 36/

34/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, para. 258.

35/ Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Caracas, 25 August-5 September 1980: report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IV.4), chap. I.

36/ See Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1).

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, which guarantees the right of women to equal status with men,

Noting that, in its general recommendation No. 12, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that States parties include in their periodic reports to the Committee information on measures undertaken to protect women against the incidence of all kinds of violence in everyday life occurring within the family, at the workplace or in any other area of social life, 37/ and that the Committee had decided at its tenth session to undertake at its eleventh session a study of violence against women, 38/

Noting, however, that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women does not explicitly address violence against women,

1. Calls upon Member States to recognize that violence against women must be countered by a wide variety of measures;

2. Reminds Member States that violence against women is an issue of equal rights that derives from a power imbalance between women and men in society;

3. Urges Member States to adopt, strengthen and enforce legislation prohibiting violence against women;

4. Also urges Member States to take all appropriate administrative, social and educational measures to protect women from all forms of physical or mental violence;

5. Recommends that a framework for an international instrument be developed in consultation with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that would address explicitly the issue of violence against women;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, through the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, to convene in 1991 or 1992 a meeting, to be funded from extrabudgetary resources, of experts representing all regions and including representatives of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on Crime Prevention and

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37/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), chap. V.

38/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/46/38).

Control, to address the issue of violence against women and to discuss the possibilities of preparing such an international instrument and the elements to be contained therein, and to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session;

7. Urges Governments at all levels to develop training programmes for members of the criminal justice system and health-care system, including police officers, doctors, nurses, social workers and members of the legal profession, to ensure sensitization to and fair administration of justice with respect to equality issues;

8. Requests Governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, other relevant bodies and academics, to undertake research into the causes of violence against women.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/19. Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General 39/ and the notes by the Secretary-General 40/ concerning the situation of Palestinian women living inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 thereof, 31/

Recalling also its resolutions 1988/25 of 26 May 1988, 1989/34 of 24 May 1989 and 1990/11 of 24 May 1990,

Expressing concern at the persistent refusal of Israel to respect the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 41/

Taking into account the intifadah of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory against the Israeli occupation, and the harmful effects of the occupation on Palestinian women and children,

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39/ E/CN.6/1988/8 and Corr.1 and E/CN.6/1989/4 and Corr.1.

40/ E/CN.6/1990/10 and E/CN.6/1991/9.

41/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

Dismayed at the continuation of the oppressive practices of Israel, including collective punishment, curfews, demolition of houses, closure of schools and universities, deportation, confiscation of land and measures that are particularly harmful to the Palestinian women and children in the occupied Palestinian territory,

Deeply alarmed by the continuation of the practice of settling Jewish immigrants in the territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, which is illegal and contravenes the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention,

1. Reaffirms that the basic improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian women, their advancement, full equality and self-reliance can only be achieved through an end to the Israeli occupation and the attainment of the right of Palestinians to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent Palestinian State in accordance with United Nations resolutions;

2. Also reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to the Palestinian people in the territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

3. Demands that an end be put to the oppressive Israeli measures against the intifadah and the consequent suffering experienced by Palestinian women and their families in the occupied Palestinian territory;

4. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 thereof, which concerns assistance to Palestinian women both inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory;

5. Requests governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, including organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to encourage and assist in existing income-generating activities for Palestinian women and in the creation of new jobs;

6. Requests that Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territory be assisted in developing small-scale industry and creating vocational training centres;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the mission of experts to Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate the condition of Palestinian women and children 42/ in order to improve the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territory;

42/ E/CN.6/1990/10, annex I.

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue his investigation of the situation of Palestinian women and children and to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the mission of experts.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/20. Women and children under apartheid

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/13 of 24 May 1990,

Recalling also the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989 and contained in the annex thereto,

Noting the positive changes initiated by the Government of South Africa aimed at dismantling the system of apartheid,

Deeply concerned about the continuing degradation and abuse of African women and children by the white minority regime of South Africa, as noted in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 31/

Recognizing that the equality of women and men cannot be achieved without the success of the struggle towards a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on women and children living under apartheid; 43/

2. Commends those women both inside and outside South Africa who have resisted oppression and who have remained steadfast in their opposition to apartheid;

3. Urges all parties engaged in negotiations for a post-apartheid society to ensure that the principle of equality between women and men is incorporated in all laws and institutions;

43/ E/CN.6/1991/8.

4. Also urges the Government of South Africa to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 44/ at the earliest possible opportunity;

5. Appeals to all countries and United Nations bodies, in consultation with liberation movements, as appropriate, to increase their support for educational, health, vocational training and employment opportunities for women and children living under apartheid;

6. Demands the unconditional release of all political prisoners and detainees, among whom are women and children, in accordance with the undertaking of the President of South Africa;

7. Urges the international community to maintain all existing and any other necessary measures against South Africa until all the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-16/1, have been met;

8. Decides that the Commission on the Status of Women should remain seized of the issue of women and children living under apartheid.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/21. Disabled women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraphs 277 to 282 and 296, in which disabled women are considered a vulnerable group, 31/

Recalling also resolution 34/4 of 8 March 1990 of the Commission on the Status of Women, 45/

Reaffirming its support for the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 46/

44/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

45/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 5 (E/1990/25), chap. I, sect. C.

46/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

Noting with appreciation Commission for Social Development resolution 32/2 of 20 February 1991 on the establishment of an ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, 47/

Affirming its belief that all women, regardless of their situation, are able to contribute to and benefit from development on an equal basis,

1. Takes note of the recommendations of the Seminar on Disabled Women, held at Vienna from 20 to 24 August 1990; 48/

2. Invites the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat to continue to provide statistical information on women with disabilities;

3. Recommends that the focal points in the United Nations system for the advancement of women and for disability issues cooperate more closely in their efforts to give continuing attention to issues involving women with disabilities, especially at the operational level and in the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them;

4. Invites Governments to follow general recommendation No. 18 on disabled women, adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its tenth session; 49/

5. Requests the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, established by the Commission for Social Development in its resolution 32/2, to pay attention to the particular needs of disabled women.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/22. National, regional and international machinery for the advancement of women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 31/

47/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 6 (E/1991/26), chap. I, sect. D.

48/ E/CN.6/1991/CRP.1.

49/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/46/38), chap. I.

Bearing in mind its resolution 1986/31 of 23 May 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to propose guidelines for national machinery to promote the advancement of women and ways to ensure the effective implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies,

Recalling its resolution 1988/30 of 26 May 1988, in which measures were proposed to strengthen national machinery for the advancement of women, including the involvement of women's non-governmental organizations,

Mindful of its resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, the annex to which contains the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and, specifically, recommendations XXIII and XXIV, which deal with national machinery,

Recalling its resolution 1990/14 of 24 May 1990, in which it urged Governments to make renewed commitments to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies by strengthening their national machinery and increasing the resources devoted to programmes for the advancement of women,

Recognizing that national machinery is an essential element in the promotion and implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 44/

1. Urges countries that have not yet done so to establish, as soon as possible, and at the latest by 1995, national machinery for the advancement of women that can have a direct effect on government policy;

2. Urges Governments to provide adequate and secure political, financial, technical and human resources to enable the national machinery to function effectively and have access to the highest levels of government;

3. Stresses that the provision of technical assistance to countries establishing or strengthening national machinery should be considered a priority activity by the United Nations system and donor countries;

4. Invites the national machinery of different countries to exchange information, bilaterally or multilaterally, on issues of common interest, including information on innovative policies, programmes and research;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the regional commissions and within existing resources, to promote such an exchange of information through United Nations documents, by supporting regional and subregional meetings of national machineries, by using resources from the regular budgets of the five regional commissions, by making provisions for it in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and by annually updating and distributing the Directory of National Machinery for the Advancement of Women;

6. Reiterates its recommendation that the Secretary-General make available the services of an interregional adviser through the regular programme of technical cooperation, to assist, on request, national machinery in carrying out effectively the review and appraisal of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in preparing the reports called for in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and in preparing for the world conference on women to be held in 1995;

7. Encourages the provision of such other technical assistance as may be required by national machinery, and the sharing of support and expertise between units of such machinery, particularly those in developing countries, to facilitate the preparation of national reports for the 1995 world conference on women;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session on the activities of the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women, that provide assistance to national machinery to ensure that the work being done by those bodies is complementary and does not overlap;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to invite national Governments to review and update the case-studies prepared for the Seminar on National Machinery for Monitoring and Improving the Status of Women, held at Vienna from 28 September to 3 October 1987, and other appropriate case-studies, to publish those case-studies as a reference manual for national machinery and to make provisions for this in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;

10. Requests that appropriate steps be taken, within existing resources, to strengthen the capacity within the Division for the Advancement of Women to work with national machinery and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to achieve the goals of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies;

11. Urges Governments to make every effort to make information on their national machinery available and to ensure that titles accurately reflect the role of the offices concerned;

12. Requests Governments to ensure appropriate training for the staff of the national machinery and also to encourage the inclusion in management training courses of gender-analysis training and information on the role of national machinery;

13. Decides that an evaluation of the effectiveness of efforts to establish and improve national machinery since the adoption of the Nairobi

Forward-looking Strategies in 1985 and an analysis of the further action that is required should be included in a report for submission to the 1995 world conference on women in 1995.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/23. Refugee and displaced women and children

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the majority of refugees and displaced persons are women and children and that a significant number of families are headed by women,

Expressing its deep concern about the widespread violations of the rights of refugee and displaced women and children and their specific needs regarding protection and assistance,

Stressing the potential of refugee and displaced women and the importance of ensuring their full participation when their needs are analysed and programmes are designed and implemented,

Stressing that all action taken on behalf of refugee and displaced women and children must be guided by the relevant international instruments relating to the status of refugees, as well as other human rights instruments, in particular, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, adopted on 28 July 1951, 50/ and its 1967 Protocol, 51/ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 44/ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 52/

Recalling resolution 34/2 of 8 March 1990 of the Commission on the Status of Women, 45/

Recognizing that ensuring equal treatment of refugee and displaced women and men may require specific action in favour of the former,

Emphasizing the close link between protection and assistance programmes,

Recalling the special relevance of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 31/ and the obligations of the United Nations system to give effect to its provisions,

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50/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

51/ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

52/ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

Taking note of the substantial number of refugees and displaced persons and their impact on the development prospects of the already fragile infrastructure of some receiving countries,

Noting the important role of the main international bodies and organizations concerned, namely, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the United Nations Border Relief Operation, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Recognizing the important role played by non-governmental organizations,

Recalling its resolution 1990/78 of 27 July 1990, in which it requested the Secretary-General to initiate a system-wide review to assess the experience and capacity of various organizations in the coordination of assistance to all refugees, displaced persons and returnees,

Commending the policy on refugee women recently adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 53/ and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/140 of 14 December 1990,

Commending the Guidelines on Refugee Children adopted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General 54/ and the report of the Expert Group on Refugee and Displaced Women and Children, held at Vienna from 2 to 6 July 1990, 55/

1. Calls upon Member States, in cooperation with United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations, urgently to address the root causes of refugee movements and displacement;

2. Calls upon the international community to give priority to extending international protection to refugee women and children by implementing measures to ensure greater protection from physical violence, sexual abuse, abduction and circumstances that could force them into illegal activities;

53/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/45/12).

54/ E/CN.6/1991/4.

55/ EGM/RDWC/1990/1.

3. Urges Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to ensure that the specific needs and resources of refugee and displaced women and children are fully considered in the planning of their activities and programmes;

4. Also urges Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to ensure that refugee and displaced women are provided with sufficient information to enable them to make decisions on their own future;

5. Encourages Member States and relevant organizations to provide access to individual identification and registration documents, on a non-discriminatory basis, to all refugee women and, wherever possible, children, irrespective of whether the women and children are accompanied by male family members;

6. Urges Member States and the organizations concerned to ensure the full participation of refugee and displaced women in the process of assessing their own needs and in the planning and implementing of programmes;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the system-wide review to assess the experience and capacity of various organizations in the coordination of assistance to all refugees, displaced persons and returnees assesses, in particular, the ability of those organizations to address the situation of refugee women and children;

8. Encourages international organizations to increase their capacity to respond to the needs of refugee and displaced women and children by greater coordination of their efforts;

9. Commends those Member States that, despite severe economic and development problems of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees into their territory, and emphasizes the importance of the international community sharing those burdens;

10. Requests all United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, Governments, non-governmental organizations and funding agencies that play a role in the assistance and protection of refugees and displaced persons, that have not already done so, to adopt a policy on refugee and displaced women and children that will provide for the full integration of women and children into their programmes, within their respective mandates, and will include a time-frame and procedures for implementation;

11. Urges the recruitment of staff, in particular, female field staff, who are able to provide assistance and protection appropriate to the specific needs of refugee women and children;

12. Calls upon organizations working with refugees to ensure that key staff members undergo training to raise their awareness of the issues specific to refugee and displaced women and to provide them with skills for planning appropriate protection and assistance activities;

13. Urges that, in the collection of refugee statistics, data disaggregated by age and gender be included in order to represent the refugee population accurately.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/24. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/16 of 24 May 1990, in which it took note of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its tenth session, 56/

Having considered the report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on its eleventh session, 57/

Convinced of the important impact of the work of the Institute in the areas of research, training and information on questions related to women and development, work that is an essential prerequisite for bringing about changes in development that benefit women and society,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its eleventh session and the decisions contained therein; 57/

2. Commends the Institute for its efforts to integrate its research and training activities into the mainstream of development at the regional and national levels;

3. Reaffirms the catalytic role of the Institute in elaborating methodologies for carrying out research, training and information activities in new areas of interest affecting women and development;

4. Takes note with appreciation of the fact that the Institute is continuing to consider ways to strengthen its cooperation with the regional commissions and their national coordination centres and thereby expand its work at the regional and national levels;

5. Renews its appeal to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other potential donors to continue contributing and, to the extent possible, to increase their contributions to

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56/ E/1990/34.

57/ E/1991/21.

the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thus ensuring the continuity and expansion of the Institute's work;

6. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States that have contributed to the Trust Fund, which has enabled the Institute to carry out its mandate to meet new challenges and take account of new trends in the areas of research, training and information related to women and development;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint the Director of the Institute as soon as possible, so that she may take up her duties within the framework of the mandate established in the Statute of the Institute.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/25. Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which it adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/124 of 14 December 1990 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/17 of 24 May 1990,

Noting resolutions 35/1 of 7 March 1991 and 35/3 of 8 March 1991 of the Commission on the Status of Women, 58/

Noting that in resolution 45/124, the General Assembly strongly supported the view of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening technical and substantive support for the Committee,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session, 59/

58/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28), chap. I, sect. C.

59/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/46/38).

Noting that the Committee agreed, in examining reports, to take due account of the different cultural and socio-economic systems of States parties to the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of the practice of holding a pre-sessional working group three to five days prior to each session of the Committee,

Convinced that the close relationship between the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, implies that the secretariats of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child should work closely together,

Welcoming the general recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session, 60/

Noting with appreciation the South Pacific regional seminar on the Convention held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, in March 1991, which recommended that all Pacific Island States accede to the Convention,

Aware that the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women will take place on 3 September 1991,

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session;

2. Welcomes the ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by an increasing number of Member States;

3. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to strengthen the provision of training in the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and interregional levels, especially in assisting States parties to meet their reporting obligations;

5. Urges States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide training opportunities on a regular basis for persons preparing periodic reports of States parties to the Convention;

60/ Ibid., chap. I.

6. Welcomes the initiatives taken to provide regional training courses for government officials on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties and training and information seminars for States considering acceding to the Convention, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives;

7. Recommends that the strengthening of substantive and technical support for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be a priority in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 of the Division for the Advancement of Women;

8. Invites the international community to mark the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention in an appropriate manner;

9. Invites States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their initial implementation reports, as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports, in accordance with article 18 of the Convention and the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for, facilitate and encourage, within existing resources, the dissemination of public information relating to the Committee, its recommendations, the Convention and the concept of legal literacy, taking into account the Committee's own recommendations in that regard;

11. Recommends that a close relationship be maintained between the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other United Nations human rights bodies and between the secretariats of those Committees.

12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991

1991/26. Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist regime of South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 39/15 of 23 November 1984, 41/95 of 4 December 1986, 43/92 of 8 December 1988 and 45/84 of 14 December 1990,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. Ahmed Khalifa, for his updated report; 61/

2. Expresses its thanks to all Governments and organizations that provided information to the Special Rapporteur;

3. Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/22 of 27 February 1990, invites the Special Rapporteur:

(a) To continue to update, subject to annual review, the list of banks, transnational corporations and other organizations assisting the racist and colonialist regime of South Africa, giving such details regarding enterprises listed as the Special Rapporteur may consider necessary and appropriate, including explanations of responses, if any, and to submit the updated report to the Commission on Human Rights through the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

(b) To use all available material from other United Nations organs, Member States, national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other relevant sources in order to indicate the volume, nature and adverse human consequences of the assistance given to the racist regime of South Africa;

(c) To intensify direct contacts with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Centre Against Apartheid of the Secretariat, with a view to consolidating mutual cooperation in updating the report;

4. Calls upon all Governments:

(a) To cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in making the report even more accurate and informative;

(b) To disseminate the updated report and give its contents the widest possible publicity;

5. Also calls upon all Governments and organizations to maintain sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa until the total dismantlement of the apartheid system, in conformity with the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989 in its resolution S-16/1;

6. Invites the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its forty-third session and the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session to consider the updated report;

61/ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/13 and Add.1.

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/84, to make available to the Special Rapporteur two economists to help him develop his analysis and documentation on specific cases of special importance;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteur all the assistance that he may require in the exercise of his mandate, with a view to intensifying direct contacts with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Centre Against Apartheid of the Secretariat and to consolidating mutual cooperation in updating his report;

9. Further requests the Secretary-General to bring the updated report of the Special Rapporteur to the attention of Governments whose national financial institutions continue to deal with the regime of South Africa, and to call upon them to provide the Special Rapporteur with any information or comments they may wish to present on the matter;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to contact the Government of South Africa with a view to enabling the Special Rapporteur to undertake a visit to South Africa on special mission within the perspective of the next update of his report;

11. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to give the updated report of the Special Rapporteur the widest distribution and publicity as a United Nations publication.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/27. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/41 of 5 March 1991, 62/

1. Authorizes an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of two weeks prior to the forty-eighth session of the Commission to consider the draft declaration on the protection of all persons from enforced or involuntary disappearances, prepared by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 63/ with a view to its adoption by the Commission at its forty-eighth session;

62/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 2 (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

63/ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/32, annex.

2. Requests the Secretary-General to extend all facilities to the working group for its meeting prior to the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/28. Right to a fair trial

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights decision 1990/108 of 7 March 1990, 64/ in which the Commission welcomed the decision of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to appoint Mr. Stanislav Chernichenko and Mr. William Treat as rapporteurs to prepare a report on existing international norms and standards pertaining to the right to a fair trial, and Commission resolution 1991/43 of 5 March 1991, 62/

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 41/120 of 4 December 1986 on setting international standards in the field of human rights,

Taking into account the brief report on the right to a fair trial prepared by Mr. Chernichenko and Mr. Treat, 65/

1. Endorses resolution 1990/18 of 30 August 1990, adopted by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 66/ by which the Subcommission decided to entrust Mr. Stanislav Chernichenko and Mr. William Treat with the preparation of a study entitled "The right to a fair trial: current recognition and measures necessary for its strengthening", and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/43; 62/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the two Special Rapporteurs with all the assistance necessary to carry out the above-mentioned study;

3. Requests the two Special Rapporteurs to draft a questionnaire on the right to a fair trial;

64/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. B.

65/ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/34.

66/ E/CN.4/1991/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/59, chap. II, sect. A.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the questionnaire, together with the brief report on the right to a fair trial, prepared by Mr. Chernichenko and Mr. Treat, to Governments, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for their response and comments, and to transmit the responses to the Special Rapporteurs for consideration in connection with the study referred to in paragraph 1 above;

5. Requests the Special Rapporteurs to produce a preliminary report based upon their study, the responses to the questionnaire and ways to formulate the basic guarantees necessary for a fair trial into an international standard such as a model code, and to submit it to the Subcommission for consideration at its forty-third session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session for comment.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/29. Question of a draft body of principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 10 A (XXXIII) of 11 March 1977, 67/ by which the Commission requested the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to study the question of the protection of persons detained on the grounds of mental ill-health, with a view to formulating guidelines,

Recalling also its resolution 1989/76 of 24 May 1989, 68/ by which it authorized an open-ended working group of the Commission to meet to examine, revise and simplify as necessary the draft body of principles and guarantees for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care, submitted by the Subcommission,

Expressing its appreciation to the Commission on Human Rights for having concluded the elaboration of a draft body of principles,

1. Decides to submit the draft body of principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care and

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67/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/5927), chap. XXI, sect. B.

68/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

the report of the working group of the Commission on Human Rights 69/ to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth session, with a view to the adoption of the body of principles;

2. Recommends that after the General Assembly has adopted the draft body of principles, the complete text be given the widest possible dissemination, and also recommends that the introduction to the body of principles be issued at the same time, as an accompanying document, for the benefit of Governments and the public at large.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/30. Rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/61 of 6 March 1991, 62/

1. Authorizes an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to hold twenty fully serviced meetings at the beginning of December 1991 to complete its second reading of the draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and with a view to submitting the text to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session, in 1992;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the working group with all the assistance it may require for the continuation of its work.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/31. Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/63 of 6 March 1991, 62/

69/ E/CN.4/1991/39.

1. Authorizes an open-ended working group to meet for a period of two weeks prior to the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights to continue work on a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to extend all necessary facilities to the working group for its meetings.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/32. Strengthening the independence of the experts members of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account the relevant opinions of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations dated 16 February 1984 and 31 July 1989,

Interprets rule 59 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council as follows: it is understood that the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities may vote on resolutions pertaining to allegations of violations of human rights in countries by secret ballot, when it so decides by a majority of its members present and voting.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/33. International Covenants on Human Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its important responsibilities in relation to the coordination of activities to promote the International Covenants on Human Rights, 70/

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 71/ form the core of the International Bill of Rights,

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70/ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

71/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 70/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 70/ and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 72/ and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting and implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifth session, 73/ as well as the general comments of the Human Rights Committee adopted at its thirty-ninth session, 74/

Noting, in this regard, that a number of States Members of the United Nations have yet to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Considering that the effective functioning of treaty bodies established in accordance with the relevant provisions of international instruments on human rights plays a fundamental role and hence represents an important continuing concern of the United Nations,

1. Reaffirms the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights as major parts of the international effort to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. Appeals strongly to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

3. Invites the States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to consider making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

72/ See General Assembly resolutions 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

73/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/1991/23 and Corr.1).

74/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/45/40), vol. I, annex VI, sect. B.

4. Appeals to States parties to the Covenants that have exercised their sovereign right to make reservations in accordance with relevant rules of international law to consider whether any such reservations should be reviewed;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to intensify the systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to provide technical assistance to the States that are not parties to the Covenants, with a view to assisting them in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants;

6. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties to the Covenants with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

7. Stresses the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation and the need for strict observance of all the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

8. Welcomes the continuing efforts of the Human Rights Committee to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and appeals to other bodies dealing with similar questions of human rights to respect those standards as expressed in the general comments of the Human Rights Committee;

9. Also welcomes the adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of a general comment at both its third 75/ and fourth 76/ sessions, and encourages the Committee to continue using that mechanism to develop a fuller appreciation of the obligations of States parties under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

10. Further welcomes the fact that the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in its general comment on article 2, paragraph 1, of the Covenant, adopted at its fifth session, 77/ dealt with the nature of States parties' obligations;

75/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 4 (E/1989/22), annex III.

76/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 3 (E/1990/23), annex III.

77/ Ibid., 1991, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/1991/23 and Corr.1), annex III.

11. Invites States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in conformity with article 2, paragraph 1, of the Covenant, to consider identifying benchmarks to measure achievements in the progressive realization of the rights recognized in the Covenant and, in that context, to pay particular regard to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights informed of the relevant activities of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Commission against Apartheid in Sports, the Group of Three established under the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and, where appropriate, other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the specialized agencies, and to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to all those bodies;

13. Encourages all Governments to publicize the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in as many languages as possible, and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

14. Invites States parties to the Covenants, at their regular meetings in 1992, to consider the general comments adopted by the Human Rights Committee and the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

15. Decides to transmit the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for consideration under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/34. United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decisions 16 (LVI) and 17 (LVI) of 17 May 1974, by which it authorized the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to establish a Working Group on Slavery, renamed the Working Group

on Contemporary Forms of Slavery by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1988/42 of 8 March 1988, 78/

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/58 of 6 March 1991, 62/ by which it requested the Economic and Social Council to take further action on its recommendation to the General Assembly to establish a voluntary fund on contemporary forms of slavery,

Gravely concerned that slavery, the slave trade, slavery-like practices and even modern manifestations of this phenomenon still exist, representing some of the gravest violations of human rights,

Convinced that the establishment of a voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery would constitute a significant development for the protection of human rights of victims of contemporary forms of slavery,

1. Requests the General Assembly to establish a voluntary trust fund in accordance with the following criteria:

(a) The name of the Fund shall be the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

(b) The purposes of the Fund shall be, first, to assist representatives of non-governmental organizations from different regions, dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery, to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery by providing them with financial assistance and, second, to extend, through established channels of assistance, humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery;

(c) Funding shall take place by means of voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities;

(d) The only types of activity to be supported by the Fund are those described in subparagraph (b) above;

(e) The only beneficiaries from the Fund shall be:

(i) Representatives from non-governmental organizations dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery:

a. Who are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery described in subparagraph (f) below;

78/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

b. Who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the sessions of the Working Group without the assistance provided by the Fund;

c. Who would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery;

(ii) Individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery and who are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

(f) The Fund shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and other relevant provisions, with the advice of a Board of Trustees composed of five persons with relevant experience in the field of human rights and contemporary forms of slavery in particular, who will serve in their personal capacity; the members of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Secretary-General for a three-year term renewable in consultation with the current Chairman of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and with due regard to equitable geographical distribution.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/35. Suppression of the traffic in persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1982/20 of 10 March 1982 79/ on the question of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations, including the slavery-like practices of apartheid and colonialism, and 1988/42 of 8 March 1988, 78/ 1989/35 of 6 March 1989, 68/ 1990/63 of 7 March 1990 80/ and 1991/58 of 6 March 1991 62/ on the report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Recalling also its resolutions 1982/20 of 4 May 1982 and 1983/30 of 26 May 1983 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others, 1988/34 of 27 May 1988 and 1989/74 of 24 May 1989 on the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the

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79/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 2 (E/1982/12), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

80/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and 1990/46 of 25 May 1990,

Considering that the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Economic and Social Council on the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others 81/ still constitutes a useful basis for further action,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/30 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others, 82/

Noting that only a few Member States, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations have submitted information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in Council resolution 1983/30,

Gravely concerned that slavery, the slave trade and slavery-like practices still exist, that there are modern manifestations of those phenomena and that such practices represent some of the gravest violations of human rights,

Aware of the complexity of the issue of the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others, and the need for further coordination and cooperation to implement the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur and by various United Nations bodies,

1. Reminds States parties to the Slavery Convention of 1926, 83/ the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956, 83/ and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 1949 83/ that they should submit to the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities regular reports on the situation in their countries, as provided for under the relevant conventions and under Economic and Social Council decision 16 (LVI) of 17 May 1974;

2. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/30 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others; 82/

81/ E/1983/7 and Corr.1 and 2.

82/ E/1991/18.

83/ See Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.XIV.1), sect. F.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the Council, at its regular session of 1992, on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in Council resolution 1983/30 by those Member States, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations that have not yet submitted such information and to make that report available to the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to ensure effective servicing of the Working Group and of other activities related to contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices, and requests him to report to the Council at its regular session of 1992 on the steps taken;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to designate the Centre for Human Rights as the focal point for the coordination of activities in the United Nations for the suppression of contemporary forms of slavery;

6. Urges the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to collaborate closely with the Centre for Human Rights on the issue of suppression of contemporary forms of slavery;

7. Endorses the recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1991/58, that the supervisory bodies of the International Labour Organisation give particular attention in their work to the implementation of provisions and standards designed to ensure protection of children and other persons exposed to contemporary forms of slavery;

8. Endorses the recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1991/58, that the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, when examining periodic reports of States parties, give particular attention to the implementation of, respectively, articles 8 and 24 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, articles 10, 12 and 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, article 6 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and articles 32, 34, 35 and 36 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with a view to combating contemporary forms of slavery;

9. Decides to consider the question of the suppression of traffic in persons at its regular session of 1992 under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

1991/36. Developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/180 of 21 December 1990, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/23 of 5 March 1991 62/ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/47 of 25 May 1990,

Recalling also section V of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990 concerning interim measures for additional human resources for the Centre for Human Rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Centre for Human Rights in the promotion, protection and implementation of human rights and the need to provide sufficient human resources to the Centre, particularly in view of the fact that its workload has greatly increased while resources have failed to keep pace with the expansion of its responsibilities, 84/

1. Notes with regret that the report requested in paragraph 3 of the Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/23 has not been submitted to the Council;

2. Notes that the workload of the Centre for Human Rights has further increased owing to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights;

3. Expresses its concern that unless appropriate financial measures are taken, the reduced efficiency of the servicing of human rights bodies by the Secretariat could be further impaired;

4. Calls upon the General Assembly to take into account the discrepancy between the Centre's resources and its increased responsibilities and, in accordance with established procedures, to take appropriate and prompt action to rectify the problem;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/180 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/23, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a progress report on developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

84/ See E/1990/50 and A/45/807.

1991/37. Infringements of trade union rights in South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/82 of 24 May 1989, in which it requested the Secretary-General to persist in his efforts to ensure referral of the complaint made by the Congress of South African Trade Unions to the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association of the International Labour Organisation,

Recalling also its resolution 1990/44 of 25 May 1990,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights, 85/

Having examined the relevant section of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa of the Commission on Human Rights, 86/

Noting the evolving situation in South Africa,

Aware of the ever-growing importance of the independent black trade union movement in the struggle against apartheid,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General 85/ submitted pursuant to Council resolution 1989/82, containing the note verbale dated 27 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for persisting in his efforts to ensure the implementation of paragraph 9 of Council resolution 1989/82;

3. Regrets that the apartheid regime in South Africa has placed some conditions on its decision to agree that the allegations made by the Congress of South African Trade Unions should be referred to the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association of the International Labour Organisation, and invites it to cooperate fully in the matter;

4. Decides to transmit to the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association, through the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, the allegations of infringement of trade union rights made by the Congress of South African Trade Unions in May 1988;

85/ E/1991/57, annex II.

86/ E/1991/41, annex.

5. Demands once again the unimpeded exercise of trade union rights, the immediate unconditional release of all trade unionists imprisoned for exercising their legitimate trade union rights and the cessation of the persecution of trade unionists and repression of the independent black trade union movement;

6. Takes note of the relevant section of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa of the Commission on Human Rights; 86/

7. Requests the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa to continue to study the situation and to report thereon to the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council;

8. Also requests the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa, in discharging its mandate, to consult with the International Labour Organisation and the Special Committee Against Apartheid, as well as with international and African trade union confederations;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its regular session of 1992, for consideration and action, as appropriate, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

13th plenary meeting
31 May 1991

DECISIONS

1991/213. Adoption of the agenda of the first regular session of 1991 and other organizational matters

1. At its 4th and 5th plenary meetings, on 13 and 15 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To approve the requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its first regular session; 87/

(b) To defer consideration of agenda item 5 (a), entitled "Statistics", until its second regular session of 1991 and to consider it as a sub-item under the item entitled "Development and international economic cooperation".

2. The Council adopted the agenda of its first regular session of 1991 88/ and approved the organization of work for the session. 89/

3. At its 14th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Council approved the organization of work for its resumed first regular session of 1991. 90/

1991/214. Reconvened seventeenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

At its 4th plenary meeting, on 13 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided to reconvene the seventeenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations for one meeting, to be held on 25 May 1991.

1991/215. Dates of the meeeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 15 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided that the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, which was to have been held at Geneva from 9 to 13 December 1991, would be held from 11 to 17 December 1991.

87/ E/1991/73 and Add.1.

88/ E/1991/74.

89/ See E/1991/L.15.

90/ E/1991/L.17/Add.1.

1991/216. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 22 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

Category I

IPS Inter Press Service International Cooperative

Category II

ActionAid

Arab Council for Childhood and Development

Asia Crime Prevention Foundation

Charity Organization

Childhope

Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America

Development Innovations and Networks

France-Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

International Alert

International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (IFHSB)

International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers

International Kolping Society

International Service for Human Rights

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights

National Wildlife Federation

Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities

Planetary Society, The

Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs

Refugee Policy Group

Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF)

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)

South American Commission for Peace, Regional Security and Democracy

Special Olympics International

World Coal Institute, The

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-City Solidarity

Roster

African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development

Arab Society of Certified Accountants

Article 19, International Centre on Censorship, The

Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, The

International Real Estate Institute

Japan Solidarity Committee for Asian Alumni - International (JASCAA-International)

Panamanian White Cross Association

Wainwright House

World Association of Women Entrepreneurs

(b) To reclassify four organizations from category II to category I and five organizations from the Roster to category II, as follows:

Category I

CARE International

International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)

International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA)

International Movement ATD Fourth World

Category II

Asian Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)

Daytop Village Foundation, Inc.

Defense for Children International Movement

World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations

World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (WFTC)

(c) To refer the application of Human Life International back to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for further consideration at its session to be held in 1993.

1991/217. Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held in 1993

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 22 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held in 1993 set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SESSION OF THE COMMITTTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE HELD IN 1993

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:

   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from the 1991 session of the Committee;

   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification.

   Documentation

   Deferred applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General

Deferred requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General

New applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General

New requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General

4. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II.

Documentation

Quadrennial reports for the period 1988-1991 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968

Follow-up to decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its session in 1991: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968

5. Review of future activities.

Documentation

Report on the annual informal consultation held in 1991 and 1992 between the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Working Group

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee to be held in 1995.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

1991/218. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 22 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided that the consultative status of the following organizations, which failed to submit a detailed report on their activities, as requested by

the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 1989 session, 91/ be withdrawn:

International Christian Union of Business Executives (UNIAPAC)

International Hotel Association

Studies and Expansion Society - International Scientific Association (SEC).

1991/219. Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 22 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its session held in 1991 92/ and in particular of the comments made on its methods of work. 93/

1991/220. Emergency assistance for the economic and social rehabilitation of Liberia

At its 8th plenary meeting, on 23 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the oral report of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship made at the 5th meeting. 94/

1991/221. Report of the Council of the United Nations University

At its 9th plenary meeting, on 28 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Council of the United Nations University on the work of the University in 1990. 95/

91/ E/1989/40, paras. 16 and 17.

92/ E/1991/20 and Add.1.

93/ Ibid., paras. 44-49.

94/ See E/1991/SR.5.

95/ E/1991/15.

1991/222. Twelfth and Thirteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific

At its 9th plenary meeting, on 28 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Twelfth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific; 96/

(b) Endorsed the recommendations made by the Conference that the regional conferences for Asia and the Pacific should be held at three-year intervals, that the Thirteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific should be convened in 1994 and that a technical meeting should be held prior to the Conference.

1991/223. The United States economic embargo against Cuba: its adverse effects on the full enjoyment of human rights by the Cuban people

At its 11th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided to take no action at its first regular session of 1991 on the draft resolution entitled "The United States economic embargo against Cuba: its adverse effects on the full enjoyment of human rights by the Cuban people", 97/ bearing in mind the fact that a record of the proceedings on the matter will appear in the report of the Council.

1991/224. Elections, appointments and nominations to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

1. At its 11th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council held elections to fill the seats falling vacant on 31 December 1991 in six of its functional commissions, as follows:

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

The following eight Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: CHINA, CHECHOSLOVAKIA, GHANA, JAMAICA, MOROCCO, PAKISTAN, POLAND and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

96/ E/1991/51.

97/ E/1991/L.22/Rev.1.

POPULATION COMMISSION

The following eight Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: FRANCE, HONDURAS, JAPAN, MADAGASCAR, NETHERLANDS, POLAND, RWANDA and SUDAN.

The Council postponed until a future session the election of one member from Asian States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992.

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The following eleven Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, COTE D'IVOIRE, FRANCE, GERMANY, HAITI, INDONESIA, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, SUDAN, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The following twenty-four Member States were elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: ANGOLA, BANGLADESH, BARBADOS, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CYPRUS, GABON, INDIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, NETHERLANDS, NIGERIA, SRI LANKA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TUNISIA, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND URUGUAY.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The following ten Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: CHILE, CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FINLAND, MADAGASCAR, PAKISTAN, PERU, SPAIN, VENEZUELA and ZAMBIA.

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The following twenty States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: BOLIVIA, CANADA, FRANCE, GABON, GERMANY, INDIA, ITALY, LESOTHO, MADAGASCAR, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PERU, POLAND, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THAILAND, TURKEY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA and YUGOSLAVIA.

2. At its 11th to 13th plenary meetings, on 30 and 31 May 1991, the Council also held elections to fill vacancies in the following bodies: Commission on Human Settlements, Commission on Transnational Corporations, Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, Executive Board of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, International Narcotics Control Board and

Committee for the United Nations Population Award. The Council appointed members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and nominated Member States for election by the General Assembly to the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the World Food Council. The details are given below.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Council elected the following eighteen Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: AUSTRIA, BARBADOS, BOTSWANA, BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, GERMANY, GHANA, GREECE, HAITI, INDIA, JORDAN, KENYA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, SRI LANKA, SUDAN and UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.

The Council also elected CAMEROON, PAKISTAN and UGANDA for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1994 and BANGLADESH and EGYPT for a term beginning on 1 January 1992 and expiring on 31 December 1994.

The Council postponed until a future session the election of one member from Eastern European States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1992.

COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

The Council elected the following sixteen Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: CONGO, COSTA RICA, GABON, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, JAMAICA, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, PAKISTAN, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, SWEDEN, THAILAND, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Council postponed until a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The Council elected the following fourteen Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: BULGARIA, CHILE, COSTA RICA, CYPRUS, GERMANY, HUNGARY, INDIA, ITALY, MALAWI, NETHERLANDS, NIGERIA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND and UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

The Council also elected COTE D'IVOIRE for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

The Council postponed until a future session the election of (a) three members from Asian States, two for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992 and one for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993 and (b) two members from Latin American and Caribbean States, one for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992 and one for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

The Council elected the following twenty-one States for a three-year term beginning on 1 August 1991: ANGOLA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CONGO, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, NICARAGUA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SENEGAL, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, YEMEN and YUGOSLAVIA.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

The Council, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/138 of 14 December 1990, in which the Assembly decided to increase the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 43 to 44, elected the PHILIPPINES as a member of the Executive Committee.

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Council elected the following sixteen Member States for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational meeting of the Governing Council to be held in February 1992 and expiring on the day preceding the organizational meeting three years later: BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, CAMEROON, CANADA, CONGO, FIJI, FRANCE, GAMBIA, LESOTHO, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, ROMANIA, SOMALIA, SPAIN and YEMEN.

COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

The Council elected the following five Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992: COLOMBIA, CUBA, GHANA, NORWAY and UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

The Council elected the following seven members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1992: Sahibzada Rauf Ali Khan (Pakistan), Sirad Atmodjo (Indonesia), Abdol-Hamid Ghodse (Islamic Republic of Iran), Gottfried Machata (Austria), Bunsom Martin (Thailand), Herbert S. Okun (United States of America) and Manuel Quijano Narezo (Mexico).

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

The Council elected the following 10 Member States for a three-year term: BURUNDI, BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, CAMEROON, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, INDIA, JAPAN, MEXICO, NETHELRANDS and RWANDA.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The Council appointed Fatima Benslimane Hassad (Morocco), Gule Afruz Mahbub (Bangladesh), D. Gail Saunders (Bahamas), Renata Siemienska-Zochowska (Poland) and Kristin Tornes (Norway) for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1991.

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The Council, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976 and General Assembly decision 42/450 of 17 December 1987, nominated the following Member States for election by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992:

(a) African States (two vacancies): GHANA and ZAMBIA;

(b) Eastern European States (one vacancy): UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS;

(c) Latin American and Caribbean States (two vacancies): BAHAMAS, NICARAGUA and URUGUAY;

(d) Western European and other States (two vacancies): FRANCE and UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

The Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, nominated the following States for election by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1992:

(a) African States (three vacancies): CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, SWAZILAND and UGANDA;

(b) Asian States (two vacancies): INDONESIA, PAKISTAN and THAILAND;

(c) Eastern European States (two vacancies): UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS;

(d) Latin American and Caribbean States (three vacancies): GUATEMALA, HONDURAS and NICARAGUA;

(e) Western European and other States (two vacancies): AUSTRALIA and GERMANY.

3. At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Council held the following election postponed from a previous session:

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The Council elected the following five Member States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1994: GUINEA, KENYA, TOGO, PAPUA NEW GUINEA and PHILIPPINES.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of (a) three members from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992; (b) four members from Asian States, one for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1994 and three for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992; and (c) eight members from Western European and other States, four for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1994 and four for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992.

1991/225. Report of the Secretary-General on the work being done within the United Nations system on improving quantitative and qualitative indicators on social conditions and standards of living

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work being done within the United Nations system on improving quantitative and qualitative indicators on social conditions and standards of living. 98/

1991/226. Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-third session of the Commission

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-second session, 99/ and endorsed the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-third session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Review of the world social situation.

Under this item the Commission will review social conditions and issues of global concern, giving particular emphasis to the context of the changing world economy and the implications of those changes for social policies and programmes. Special attention will be given to the actual situation and particular problems in Africa and the least developed countries.

98/ A/46/137-E/1991/40.

99/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 6 (E/1991/26).

Emphasis will be placed on the review of new approaches and methods for the solution of problems based, inter alia, on recent national experience.

Documentation

1993 Report on the World Social Situation

Report of the Secretary-General on the critical social situation in Africa (Council resolution 1991/6)

4. Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action.

Under this item, the Commission will monitor the implementation of international plans and programmes of action - specifically, the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, the International Plan of Action on Ageing, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) - and their follow-up arrangements, as well as the social components of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. In its capacity as preparatory body for the International Year of the Family, the Commission will review progress made in the preparation for and the observance of the Year, and will offer g dance for possible follow-up action to the Year.

The Commission will review concurrently the relevant activities of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in the field of social development, including technical cooperation activities, in particular those relating to social planning and national capacity-building in social policy design and implementation, and to developmental social welfare, cooperatives, community and local-level action and family issues, as well as activities, reports and strategies relating to youth, ageing and disabled persons. The Commission will receive reports from the regional commissions on their social development and social welfare activities, as well as reports on relevant expert group meetings.

The Commission will also consider under this item a sub-item for in-depth discussion entitled "Development of a long-term strategy to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the year 2000, with particular emphasis on national policies".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the major issues and programme activities of the Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups (Council resolution 1981/20; see also Council resolutions 1991/7, 1991/8, 1991/9, 1991/10 and 1991/11)

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of the International Year of the Family (Council resolution 1991/14)

Report of the meeting of experts, to be held at Vancouver, Canada, in 1992, in conjunction with the conference entitled "Independence 1992", on the subject of a long-term strategy to implement the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons to the year 2000 and beyond (Council resolution 1991/9)

Report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons (Council resolution 1990/26 and Commission resolution 32/2)

Note by the Secretary-General containing a draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace and a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond (Council resolution 1991/11)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved and obstacles encountered in implementing the social development goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (Council resolution 1991/12)

5. Priority subjects.

Under this item, the Commission will consider in depth the social consequences of population growth and changing social conditions with particular emphasis on the family, bearing in mind the various concepts of the family in different political, social and cultural systems.

The Commission will consider the conclusions and recommendations of relevant expert group meetings, focusing on policy measures and taking into account the special concerns of the developing countries.

Documentation

Report of the expert group meeting on the social consequences of population growth and changing social conditions with particular emphasis on the family

6. Other matters.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the draft proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission.

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-third session.

1991/227. Programme questions

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, reaffirming the importance of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, and the need to translate them into concrete action, decided to request the Secretary-General to identify the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point for social policy research and advisory services for countries undergoing economic and social policy adjustment and to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the progress achieved in that area.

1991/228. Confirmation of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, on the nomination by the Commission for Social Development, in its decision 32/101, 100/ decided to confirm the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a four-year term, beginning on 1 July 1991:

Kinhide MUSHAKOJI (Japan);

Guillermo O'DONNEL (Argentina);

Rehman SOBHAN (Bangladesh);

Fahima CHARAF-EDDINE (Lebanon);

Georgina DUFOIX (France).

100/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. C.

1991/229. In-depth consideration of major social policy themes by the Economic and Social Council

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission for Social Development resolution 32/3 101/ and decided to consider the recommendations contained in that resolution at its organizational session for 1992.

1991/230. World summit for social development

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-second session 99/ and bearing in mind the discussions held in the Second (Social) Committee at its first regular session of 1991, decided to request the Secretary-General to carry out consultations with all States Members of the Organization on the possibility of convening a world summit for social development and to report to it on the matter at its regular session of 1992.

1991/231. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fifth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission

At its 12th plenary meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fifth session 102/ and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.

   [Legislative authority: rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council]

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   [Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII); rules 5 and 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council]

101/ Ibid., sect. D.

102/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28).

3. Programming and coordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system.

[Legislative authority: Programme planning regulation 4.12 (formerly 3.12); General Assembly resolution 45/125; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/18 and 1989/30]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing updated information on the status of women in the Secretariat

Note by the Secretariat on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

For information

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of women in the Secretariat (A/46/...)

4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 40/108, 41/111, 42/62, 43/101, 44/73, 44/77, 45/124, 45/127 and 45/129; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/20, 1988/22, 1990/5, 1990/9, 1990/12 and 1990/15 and decision 1989/129]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women and children

Report of the Secretary-General on physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex

Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women in all its forms

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a list of confidential and non-confidential communications concerning the status of women

Revised draft resolution E/CN.6/1991/L.14 entitled "Communications concerning the status of women" (see Commission decision 35/103)

For information

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/46/...)

Report of the Secretary-General on the interregional consultation on women in public life (A/46/...)

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session (A/46/38)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/46/...)

5. Priority themes:

[Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 44/76; Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/24 and decision 1990/213]

(a) Equality: Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women;

(b) Development:

(i) Integration of women in the process of development;

(ii) Women and the environment;

(c) Peace: Equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women

Report of the Secretary-General on the integration of women in the process of development

Report of the Secretary-General on women and the environment

Report of the Secretary-General on equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament

6. Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-sixth session.

1991/232. Request for additional conference facilities during the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided to approve the convening of four additional meetings, with interpretation services, to be held simultaneously with the plenary meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women during its thirty-sixth session, in order to consider the preparations for the world conference on women in 1995.

1991/233. Use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/7 of 22 February 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur to submit a preliminary report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

1991/234. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/11 of 22 February 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to prepare and finalize a handbook of recourse procedures for victims of racism and racial discrimination, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to organize in 1991 a meeting of representatives of national institutions and organizations promoting tolerance and harmony and combating racism and racial discrimination with a view to exchanging experience on the promotion of such objectives.

1991/235. Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/18 of 1 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to organize, under the United Nations programme of human rights activities in 1992-1993, an expert seminar for discussion of appropriate indicators to measure achievements in the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights.

1991/236. Respect for the right of everyone to own property alone as well as in association with others

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/19 of 1 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Chairman of the Commission to entrust an independent expert with the task of preparing a study on the means whereby and the degree to which respect for the right to own property alone as well as in association with others contributes to the development of individual liberty and initiative, which serve to foster, strengthen and enhance the exercise of other human rights and fundamental freedoms.

1991/237. Situation of human rights in South Africa

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/21 of 1 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to renew for a further period of two years the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on Southern Africa, and also approved the Commission's request to the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts to submit a brief preliminary report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions.

1991/238. Internally displaced persons

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/25 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-eighth session an analytical report on internally displaced persons, taking into account the protection of human rights of internally displaced persons, based on information submitted by

Governments, the specialized agencies, relevant United Nations organs, regional and intergovernmental organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations.

1991/239. World Conference on Human Rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/30 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's recommendation to its Chairman, the Chairpersons or other designated members of human rights bodies, including the persons chairing the bodies established under international human rights instruments or their designated representatives, as well as special and thematic rapporteurs and the Chairpersons or designated members of working groups to contribute to the preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights by taking part as appropriate in the work of the Preparatory Committee.

1991/240. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: report of the Special Rapporteur

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/38 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's encouragement to Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their country so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively.

1991/241. Independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors and the independence of lawyers

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/39 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the endorsement by the Commission of the decision of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to entrust Mr. Louis Joinet with the preparation of a report on strengthening the independence of the judiciary and the protection of practising lawyers, as described in Subcommission resolution 1990/23 of 30 August 1990, 66/ and approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give Mr. Joinet all the assistance necessary for the completion of his task.

1991/242. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/41 of 5 March 1991, 62/ in which Governments concerned were encouraged to give serious consideration to inviting the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary

Disappearances to visit their country, so as to enable the Working Group to fulfil its mandate even more effectively, approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Working Group receives all necessary assistance, in particular the staff and resources it requires to perform its functions, especially in carrying out missions or holding sessions in countries that would be prepared to receive it.

1991/243. Question of arbitrary detention

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/42 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to create, for a three-year period, a working group composed of five independent experts, with the task of investigating cases of detention imposed arbitrarily or otherwise inconsistently with the relevant international standards as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or in the relevant international legal instruments accepted by the States concerned; decided to request the Chairman of the Commission, after consultation with the Bureau, to appoint the members of the working group; and approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the working group to enable it to accomplish its task.

1991/244. Human rights and the environment

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/44 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the endorsement by the Commission of the decision of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to entrust Mrs. Fatma Zohra Ksentini, Special Rapporteur, with the task of preparing a study on human rights and the environment, and requested the Secretary-General to provide her with all the assistance she may need for the completion of this task.

1991/245. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/48 of 5 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur.

1991/246. Assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/51 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the independent Expert.

1991/247. Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/53 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur to continue to carry out his work in the light of the mandate as enunciated in Commission resolution 1990/68 of 7 March 1990 103/ and taking into account the conclusions and recommendations in his report, 104/ and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur.

1991/248. Work of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/56 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's invitation to the Chairman of the Commission to inform the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities concerning the debate on the report of the Subcommission on its forty-second session, and also approved the Commission's request to the Chairman of the Subcommission to report to the Commission on the implementation of the guidelines which the Commission provided in the resolution.

1991/249. Report of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/59 of 6 March 1991, 62/ authorized the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of

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103/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

104/ E/CN.4/1991/51.

the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to meet for ten working days prior to the forty-third session of the Subcommission and approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Working Group and its Chairman-Rapporteur in discharging their tasks and to ensure that all meetings of the Working Group at its ninth and future sessions are provided with interpretation and documentation in both English and Spanish.

1991/250. Possible ways and means of facilitating the peaceful and constructive solution of problems involving minorities

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/62 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to submit a preliminary report to the Subcommission at its forty-third session, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteur all the assistance he may require, including a technical meeting of experts for three days, to enable him to carry out his work successfully.

1991/251. Situation of human rights in Kuwait under Iraqi occupation

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/67 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to appoint an individual of recognized international standing as special rapporteur with a mandate to examine the human rights violations committed in occupied Kuwait by the invading and occupying forces of Iraq and to report as soon as possible to the General Assembly and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the special rapporteur to enable him to carry out his mandate in the best possible conditions.

1991/252. Situation of human rights in Cuba

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/68 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General, after consultation with the Chairman and the Bureau of the Commission, to appoint a special representative to maintain direct contacts with the

Government and citizens of Cuba on the issues and questions contained in, and associated with, the report of the mission which took place in Cuba, 105/ and also approved the Commission's request to the appointed special representative to report to the Commission, at its forty-eighth session, on the results of the endeavours carried out pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/68.

1991/253. Situation of human rights in Romania

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/69 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a further year, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to carry out his mandate in the best possible conditions.

1991/254. Cooperation with representatives of United Nations human rights bodies

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/70 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's invitation to the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-eighth session a report containing any available information, from all appropriate sources, on alleged reprisals against witnesses or victims of human rights violations.

1991/255. Summary or arbitrary executions

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/71 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur.

1991/256. Situation of human rights in Iraq

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/74 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Chairman of the Commission, after consultation with the Bureau, to appoint an individual of recognized international standing in the field of human rights as special rapporteur of the Commission whose mandate would be to make a thorough study

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105/ E/CN.4/1989/46 and Corr.1.

of the violations of human rights by the Government of Iraq and submit an interim report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and a report to the Commission at its forty-eighth session, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission.

1991/257. Situation of human rights in El Salvador

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/75 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Representative for a further year, and also approved the Commission's request to the Special Representative to submit his report on the development of the human rights situation in El Salvador to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session.

1991/258. Situation of human rights in Haiti

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/77 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Chairman of the Commission to appoint an independent Expert to examine developments in the human rights situation in Haiti, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide the independent Expert with all necessary assistance in performing his task.

1991/259. Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/78 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year and to request him to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur.

1991/260. Situation in Equatorial Guinea

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/80 of 6 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the Expert responsible for cooperating with the Government of Equatorial Guinea in the full implementation of the Plan of

Action proposed by the United Nations and accepted by that Government, with a view to studying the existing situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Equatorial Guinea.

1991/261. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/82 of 7 March 1991, 62/ approved the Commission's request to the Special Representative to maintain his contacts and cooperation with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to report on further progress with regard to the recommendations contained in his report, and also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Representative.

1991/262. Question of human rights and states of emergency

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1991/108 of 5 March 1991 106/ and Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1990/19 of 30 August 1990, 66/ endorsed the request by the Subcommission to Mr. Leandro Despouy, Special Rapporteur on human rights and states of emergency, to continue to update the list on states of emergency and to present in his annual report to the Subcommission and the Commission draft standard provisions on emergency situations, and also endorsed the Subcommission's request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance he may require in order to enable him to carry out his work and, in particular, to respond in an effective way to information submitted to him.

1991/263. Organization of the work of the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1991/110 of 8 March 1991, 106/ decided to authorize, if possible within existing financial resources, forty fully serviced additional meetings, including summary records, for the Commission's forty-eighth session. The Council took note of the Commission's decision to request the Chairman at its forty-eighth session to make every effort to organize the work of the session within the normal allotted time, the additional meetings to be utilized only if they proved to be absolutely necessary.

106/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 2 (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. B.

1991/264. Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-seventh session 107/ and of the draft provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Organization of the work of the session.

[Legislative authority: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission]

Documentation

Report of the independent Expert on Guatemala (Commission resolution 1991/51, paras. 11 and 12), to be considered under an item of the agenda to be determined in the light of the report and the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Guatemala

4. Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/1 A and B and 1991/2]

Documentation

Reports of the Secretary-General (Commission resolutions 1991/1 A, para. 5, 1991/1 B, para. 5 and 1991/2, para. 6)

List of United Nations reports issued between sessions of the Commission that deal with the conditions in which the population of the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories is living (Commission resolution 1991/1 A, para. 6)

107/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement Nos. 2 and 2A (E/1991/22 and Add.1).

5. Violation of human rights in southern Africa: report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/8 and 1991/21]

Documentation

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts (Commission resolution 1991/8, para. 6)

Interim report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts (Commission resolution 1991/21, para. 22)

6. Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist regime in South Africa.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/9 and 1991/17]

Documentation

Updated report of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/26, para. 3 (a))

7. Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights, including: problems related to the right to enjoy an adequate standard of living; foreign debt, economic adjustment policies and their effects on the full enjoyment of human rights and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/13, 1991/18 and 1991/19]

Documentation

Report of the Special Rapporteur (Commission resolution 1991/13, para. 2)

Preliminary report of the independent Expert (Commission resolution 1991/19, para. 3)

8. Question of the realization of the right to development.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/15]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/15, para. 2)

9. The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/4, 1991/5, 1991/6, 1991/7 and decision 1991/104]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General transmitting information pertaining to the implementation of resolution 1991/6 (Commission resolution 1991/6, paras. 9 and 10)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries (Commission resolution 1991/7, para. 5)

10. Question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment, in particular:

(a) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(b) Status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

(c) Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances;

(d) Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/32, 1991/33, 1991/34, 1991/35, 1991/36, 1991/37, 1991/38, 1991/39, 1991/40, 1991/41, 1991/42 and 1991/43 and decisions 1991/107 and 1991/108]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken to ensure the prescribed protection for officials of the United Nations Secretariat (Commission resolution 1991/33, para. 2)

Report of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on the implementation of resolution 1991/34 (Commission resolution 1991/34, para. 10)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Commission resolution 1991/35, para.7)

Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (Commission resolution 1991/36, para. 6)

Updated report of the Secretary-General on the situation of United Nations staff members, experts and their families detained, imprisoned, missing or held in a country against their will, and on the implementation of resolution 1991/37 (Commission resolution 1991/37, para. 7)

Report of the Special Rapporteur appointed to examine questions relevant to torture (Commission resolution 1991/38, para. 20)

Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (Commission resolution 1991/41, para. 3)

Draft declaration on the protection of all persons from enforced or involuntary disappearances (Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/27, para. 1)

Comprehensive report of the working group on arbitrary detentions (Commission resolution 1991/42, para. 5)

Report of the Special Rapporteurs on the right to a fair trial (Commission resolution 1991/43, para. 4)

Annual report of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and states of emergency (Economic and Social Council decision 1991/262)

11. Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission:

(a) Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

(c) Coordinating role of the Centre for Human Rights within the United Nations bodies and machinery dealing with the promotion and protection of human rights.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/22, 1991/23, 1991/24, 1991/25, 1991/26, 1991/27, 1991/28, 1991/29, 1991/30, 1991/31 and 1991/79]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/22, para. 3)

Report of the Secretary-General on public information activities (Commission resolution 1991/24, para. 14)

Analytical report of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (Commission resolution 1991/25, para. 4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved in the implementation of resolution 1991/28 (Commission resolution 1991/28, para. 10)

12. Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories, including:

(a) Question of human rights in Cyprus;

(b) Situation of human rights in occupied Kuwait;

(c) Study of situations which appear to reveal a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights as provided in Commission resolution 8 (XXIII) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1235 (XLII) and 1503 (XLVIII): report of the Working Group on Situations established by the Commission at its forty-seventh session.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/66, 1991/67, 1991/68, 1991/69, 1991/70, 1991/71, 1991/72, 1991/73, 1991/74, 1991/75, 1991/76, 1991/78, 1991/82 and decision 1991/106]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon (Commission resolution 1991/66, para. 5 (b))

Report of the Special Rapporteur appointed to examine the human rights violations committed in occupied Kuwait (Commission resolution 1991/67, para. 9)

Report of the Special Representative appointed to maintain contacts with the Government and citizens of Cuba (Commission resolution 1991/68, para. 6)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Romania (Commission resolution 1991/69, para. 6)

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/70, para. 5)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on summary or arbitrary executions (Commission resolution 1991/71, para. 4)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq (Commission resolution 1991/74, para. 5)

Report of the Special Representative on the situation of human rights in El Salvador (Commission resolution 1991/75, para. 13)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Albania (Commission resolution 1991/76, para. 4 (b))

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (Commission resolution 1991/78, para. 14)

Report of the Special Representative on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Commission resolution 1991/82, para. 8)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of human rights in Cyprus (Commission decision 1991/106)

13. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/60]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Commission resolution 1991/60, para. 4)

14. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/11]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/11, para. 7)

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/11, para. 8)

15. Status of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/16]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Commission resolution 1991/16, para. 14)

16. Effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/20]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the comments of the treaty bodies (Commission resolution 1991/20, para. 3)

17. Report of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its forty-third session.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/56, 1991/57, 1991/58, 1991/59 and 1991/81]

Documentation

Report of the Chairman of the Subcommission (Commission resolution 1991/56, para. 20)

18. Rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/61]

Documentation

Report of the Working Group (Commission resolution 1991/61, para. 4)

19. Advisory services in the field of human rights.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/49, 1991/50, 1991/51, 1991/77 and 1991/80]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights, including the operation and administration of the Voluntary Fund (Commission resolution 1991/49, para. 14)

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress in the implementation of the programme of advisory services (Commission resolution 1991/50, para. 16)

Report of the independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (Commission resolution 1991/77, para. 12)

Report of the Expert on Equatorial Guinea (Commission resolution 1991/80, para. 9)

20. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/48]

Documentation

Report of the Special Rapporteur (Commission resolution 1991/48, para. 14)

Report of the Secretary-General on measures to implement resolution 1991/48 (Commission resolution 1991/48, para. 15)

21. Drafting of a declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/63]

Documentation

Reports of previous sessions of the working group (Commission resolution 1991/63, para. 1)

22. Rights of the Child, including:

(a) Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(b) Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children;

(c) Programme of action for the elimination of the exploitation of child labour;

(d) Draft programme of action for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolutions 1991/52, 1991/53, 1991/54 and 1991/55]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention (Commission resolution 1991/52, para. 10)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children (Commission resolution 1991/53, para. 3)

Report of the Secretary-General containing an analytical summary of replies concerning the draft programme of action (Commission resolution 1991/54, para. 13)

23. Election of Members of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

[Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1334 (XLIV) and 1986/35 and decisions 1978/21 and 1987/102]

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General containing nominations of candidates for election to membership of the Subcommission

24. World Conference on Human Rights.

[Legislative authority: Commission resolution 1991/30]

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights (Commission resolution 1991/30, para. 16)

25. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

[Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII) and Commission decision 1991/109]

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission, together with information concerning documentation relating thereto

Working document of the Secretary-General containing a draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session (Commission decision 1991/109)

26. Report to the Economic and Social Council on the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

[Legislative authority: rule 38 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council]

1991/265. Non-submission of reports by States parties

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, recalling the concern that it has frequently expressed at the non-submission of reports by States parties to international human rights treaties, appealed to the following States, which have been parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for more than ten years but which have yet to submit even the initial report required by the Covenant, to do so as soon as possible: El Salvador, Gambia, Guinea, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Suriname. The Council noted that these States might wish to avail themselves of the advisory services available from the Centre for Human Rights to assist them in the preparation of their overdue reports.

1991/266. Public information activities in the field of human rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, noting the importance that it has consistently attached to public information activities in the field of human rights, requested the Secretary-General to undertake, as soon as possible, the preparation and publication of a brochure or booklet describing in detail the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

1991/267. Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifth session. 108/

1991/268. Situation of human rights in southern Lebanon

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/66 of

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108/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/1991/23 and Corr.1 and 2).

6 March 1991 62/ and endorsed the Commission's request that the Secretary-General bring that resolution to the attention of the Government concerned and report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the results of his efforts in that regard.

1991/269. Situation in Cambodia

1. At its 13th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council, deeply concerned about the protection of human rights in Cambodia, endorsed Commission on Human Rights decision 1991/104 of 15 February 1991 106/ and reaffirmed the right of the people of Cambodia to exercise their fundamental freedoms and human rights, including their right to self-determination.

2. The Council welcomed Security Council resolution 668 (1990) of 20 September 1990 and General Assembly resolution 45/3 of 15 October 1990 endorsing the framework for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict, which has been accepted in its entirety by all the Cambodian parties as the basis for settling the Cambodian conflict. The Council also welcomed the draft agreements of 26 November 1990 109/ and the final statement 110/ of the meeting between the co-chairmen of the Paris Conference on Cambodia and members of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia on 23 December 1990.

3. The Council further welcomed the formation of a Supreme National Council as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in which, throughout the transitional period, the independence, national sovereignty and unity of Cambodia is embodied. The Council urged that, in working towards the goal of a comprehensive political settlement, the Cambodian leaders should cooperate in assuming their responsibilities in order to achieve national reconciliation.

4. The Council also urged all parties to the conflict to exercise maximum self-restraint so as to create a climate conducive to the achievement and implementation of a comprehensive political settlement, as reiterated in the appeal of the co-chairmen of the Paris Conference on Cambodia and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 22 April 1991 for a voluntary cease-fire in Cambodia.

5. The Council expressed the hope that the Paris Conference on Cambodia would be reconvened as soon as possible in order to adopt the agreement on a comprehensive political settlement and that a detailed plan of implementation would be drawn up in accordance with the agreement, providing, inter alia, for the full restoration of the human rights of the Cambodian people, including

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109/ A/46/61-S/22059, annex II.

110/ Ibid., annex I.

their inalienable right to self-determination in free and fair elections organized and conducted by the United Nations in a neutral political environment with full respect for the national sovereignty of Cambodia, and recognizing the need to promote and encourage respect for and full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cambodia.

6. The Council once again expressed its grave concern at the plight of the Cambodian displaced persons still stranded in Thailand as a result of the continuing hostilities in Cambodia.

7. The Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to monitor closely the developments in Cambodia and to intensify efforts, including the use of his good offices, to bring about a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem and to promote and encourage respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cambodia.

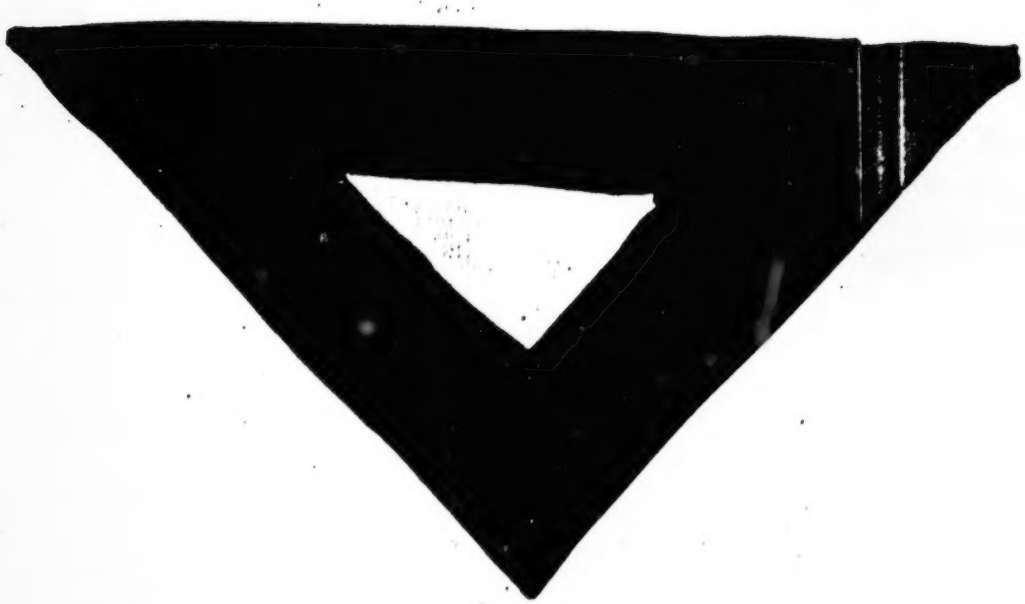
1991/270. Provisional agenda and organization of work for the second regular session of 1991 of the Economic and Social Council

At its 14th plenary meeting, on 31 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To approve the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1991; 111/

(b) To approve the organization of work for the second regular session of 1991, 112/ as orally revised. 113/

111/ E/1991/L.20, sect. I.

112/ E/1991/L.20, sect. II.

113/ E/1991/SR.14.